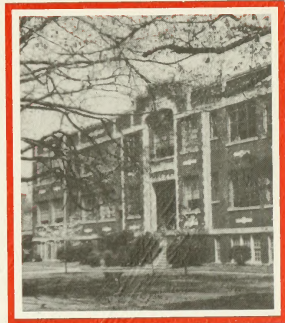
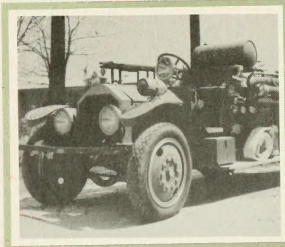
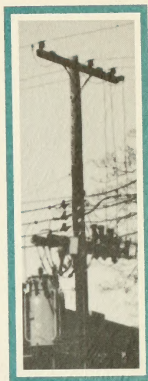
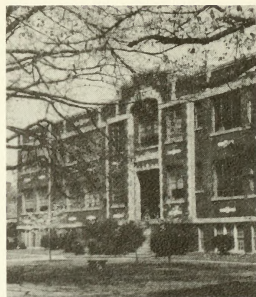
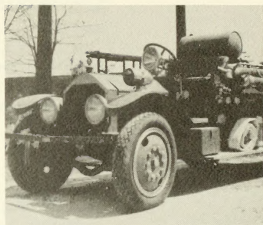


C4
11:F 17/3



FAIRMONT, N. C.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM



FAIRMONT, N. C.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN AND
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PREPARED FOR:

The Town of Fairmont, North Carolina

TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Mayor - P. L. Fisher
Mayor Pro Tem - Patrick R. Floyd, III
Worth Stephens
Dr. Joy J. Johnson
Charlie Rae Ashley

TOWN CLERK

Shirley Price

TOWN ATTORNEY

Earl Britt

PLANNING BOARD

Chairman - Larry Martin
Secretary - Bobby Melton
M. M. Andrews
F. L. Dickens
Larry Floyd
Lynn Floyd
Spencer Scott
W. H. Lewis
James Pittman
John S. Hunt

WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM:
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

George J. Monaghan, Administrator

Central Area Office
Victor H. Denton, Director

PROJECT STAFF:

*Charles Vaughn, Project Planner
Emil Breckling, Planner-In-Charge
Elizabeth Broome, Secretary
Robert Posey, Draftsman

* Responsible for this report.

July, 1967

Price: \$1.00

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT	1
TOWN HALL	5
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Fire Protection	9
Rescue Squad	18
Police Protection	19
Courtroom	19
Jail	21
PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITY SERVICES	
Water System	24
Sanitary Sewerage System	31
Storm Drainage System	35
Street System	38
Refuse Collection and Disposal	43
Municipal Garage and Storage Yards	45
PUBLIC UTILITIES	
Telephone Service	47
Electricity	47
Gas	48
EDUCATION	
Schools	49
Library	61
HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACILITIES	
County Health Services	65
Medical Clinic	65
Ambulance Service	66
Convalescent Homes	66
Cemeteries	68

	<u>Page</u>
RECREATION	69

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	78
FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF FAIRMONT	82
THE PROJECTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1968-69	85
1969-70	90
1970-71	91
1971-76	93
1976-88	96

MAPS

	<u>Page</u>
Location of Community Facilities	4
Fire Protection	10
Water System	26
Water and Sewer Line Extensions (Over Land Development Plan)	30
Sewerage System	34
Drainage Patterns	36
Unpaved Streets and Broken Pavement	39
Elementary School Service Areas	50
Recreation Areas	71

TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
I. Municipal Well Data	24
II. Municipal Reservoir Data	27
III. Major Equipment of the Public Works Department . . .	40
IV. Fairmont School System, Enrollment Figures	51
V. Number of Supplementary Classrooms, Fairmont School System	53
VI. Teachers Employed By the Fairmont School System, December 31, 1966	54
VII. Statistical Financial Summary - 1956-1966, Town of Fairmont, N. C.	83

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This Community Facilities Plan is another integral part of the continuing process of planning for orderly town development in Fairmont. This report is a guide for coordinating policies and practices which will provide Fairmont with a higher level of public facilities and services. An inventory of the existing services in this report makes apparent certain needs and deficiencies within the community. Accompanying a generalized analysis of the levels of service are recommendations made for the consideration of Town Officials. These suggestions are intended to stimulate a review of the present policy and to generate solutions for some of the exposed problems. The Community Facilities Plan is to be used in conjunction with the Land Development Plan, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Ordinance, and the Population and Economy Study to provide Fairmont with a planned pattern of growth for a 20 year planning period ending in June, 1988.

The service functions carried out by the Town of Fairmont and a few private services provided to the citizens of the community are both within the scope of this report. Community facilities are, by definition, any of the services provided by the town, school district or county agencies, plus a few selected facilities provided by the private sector of the economy. The facilities include a wide range of services, such as fire and police protection, health care, educational, cultural and utility needs. The combination of these facilities make the environment of Fairmont what it is; the proposals in this report enlighten the public official and interested citizen as to what the community environment might be like with thoughtful organization and direction.

Each of these services have their demands of equipment, space, and supporting finances; each facility must be periodically updated or replaced. The responsible citizen can much more easily

appreciate the need for a given public improvement if he has a clear understanding of what now exists in relation to what will be needed.

Three factors can explain why demands on community facilities are created. First, the town has an accumulated backlog of construction which has been postponed during the past decade. Second, modernization or wear may demand new facilities. Finally, there is an expansion demand -- a demand which requires construction of facilities necessary to accommodate the expected growth in population and to bring the level of services up to an acceptable minimum.

The Community Facilities Plan will give the town officials an opportunity to form civic goals from the standards applied to the community facilities discussed in this report. The standards are usually norms suggested by organizations working with that particular activity. From this foundation the civic goals may be placed in their proper perspective while planning for a projected population of 3,500 persons in 1988.

The importance of encouraging long range capital programming is another function of this plan and report. Such programming makes it possible for improvements and for new facilities to be worked into future budgeting with a minimum of difficulty. The related Public Improvements Program schedules the improvements called for in the Community Facilities Plan.

The objectives listed below will provide ample reason for the significance of this report:

1. To provide a Community Facilities Plan for Fairmont.
2. To state the nature of the existing facilities.
3. To provide a source of basic information about each of the community facilities for the convenience of town officials and other interested citizens.
4. To indicate town policies on various phases of community facilities where specific policies have been established.
5. To point out deficiencies as they exist among the various community facilities.

6. To note the more important plans for improvement and expansion to meet deficiencies.
7. To indicate areas in need of further study.
8. To make suggestions which will stimulate a review of policy and generate proposals for solving some of the problems.
9. To comment upon the relationship between these facilities and foreseen changes within the community, and
10. To emphasize the importance of community facilities in making Fairmont a good town in which to live and work.



TOWN OF FAIRMONT
LOCATION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES

1. ROSENWALD SCHOOL
2. FAIRMONT SCHOOL
3. TOWN HALL & FIRE STATION
4. POLICE STATION
5. WATER TREATMENT PLANT
6. WATER TOWER
7. SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT
8. CITY STORAGE & PUBLIC WORKS
9. GOLF COURSE
10. ORNAMENTAL PARK & CEMETERY
11. CEMETERY

TOWN HALL

Fairmont's present Town Hall on the north side of Cottage Street shares the same building with the fire department. Only one large room and a smaller storage room are available for all town administrative functions. Within the one room the town clerk and her assistant have their desks and work space, town meetings and public hearings are held, records are filed, utility bills and taxes are paid, and other general town business is conducted. Many of these functions are carried on with difficulty because of the limited space. The facility was not designed to provide a spatial arrangement for the many functions that are now required of this office.

The greatest difficulty is that there is no meeting hall for public hearings with facilities separate from all of the above mentioned town functions. The many interruptions could be lessened if office space were partitioned and a separate meeting room were provided. There is no space in the existing Town Hall to construct a room of this kind.

Storage areas should receive attention and be enlarged to meet a growing number of records that are being kept. Also there is not enough fire-proofed storage space for town records.

Facilities that are completely lacking in the Town Hall concern office space for other public officials. There is now no mayor's office, public works office, or combination building inspector-planning work space in the town hall. Each of these divisions should have a separate work area. A large meeting room and smaller conference rooms should be included in a new building.

Within the 20 year planning period, it would be desirable to construct a new municipal building. A municipal building in Fairmont should house several functions including all town administrative offices, police station, courtroom and town

meeting hall. By consolidating these functions a higher level of service could be provided. The present Town Hall could then be converted entirely to a fire station.

All of the functions are not immediately needed in the new proposed building. The police station has a lease that will terminate in 1971. It would be feasible to build the new facility in stages whereby the town administrative offices would be the first functions to move in followed by other functions when old leases expire or when new offices/departments are created. The initial building program might include an area for the town offices and a large meeting room and two smaller conference rooms for town meetings. As they are needed, a new courtroom and police department could be added.

The site, because it is to house public offices and services, should be located in or adjacent to the downtown area. The site should permit future building expansions, provide ample parking facilities and include space for landscaping. The existing site is totally inadequate on all of these points.

The block south of the present town hall is the recommended site for a municipal building because only a few houses remain at the present time and because this location would be desirable in relation to the business district. Ample off-street parking could easily be provided on this proposed site. Town officials should consider the possibility of developing this choice location as a site for a number of municipal and civic uses. A clustering of public oriented facilities would give Fairmont a focal point of interest and activity that is now absent. Besides its many functional activities, the municipal building should give a good image of the community. Needless to say, Fairmont's crowded town hall does not reflect this image. To design and erect an attractive and serviceable municipal building would indicate to visitors that the community is progressive in its ideas and actions and is interested in the future development of its community.

A project of this size is attainable in a community like Fairmont. The impossible -- as it may appear to town officials now -- has been achieved in other small communities with a population under 2,500. The small towns of Angier, Creedmoor, Landis, Madison, Norwood, and Wendell have completed their new municipal buildings within the last five years.

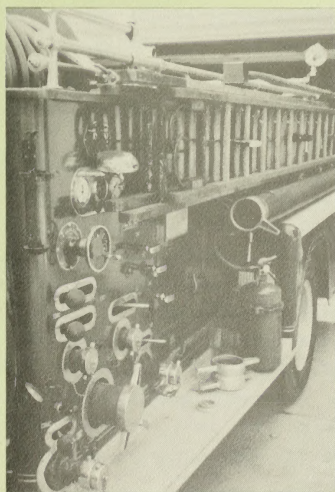
Recommendations

1. The Town of Fairmont needs a new municipal building to replace the existing crowded town hall and to provide a better level of municipal services to the community.
2. The Town should purchase land in the block across the street to the south of the town hall. Eventually (toward the end of the planning period), the Town should be the sole owner of land in this block which is bounded by Cottage Street to the north, Walnut Street to the east, Main Street to the west, and Mill Branch Creek to the south.
3. On this site, the land use should be changed from the existing residential usage to municipal and civic uses. Of immediate importance in the development of this site is the construction of a new municipal building with landscaped surroundings and ample off-street parking. All development of this site should follow a professionally designed site plan.
4. The new municipal building should house all town administrative offices, the police station, courtroom, town meeting hall, small conference rooms, and appropriate storage areas. As new departmental offices are created, they should be furnished adequate space in this building.

5. The new municipal building should be large enough to permit space for future offices as they are needed. The building, therefore, should be designed so that it will be adequate throughout the 20 year planning period. If this is done, additions during the planning period will be unnecessary.
6. When the Town Hall is vacated, the building should be converted for use only by the fire department and rescue squad. (This is further discussed in the section about the fire department.)



public safety



Introduction

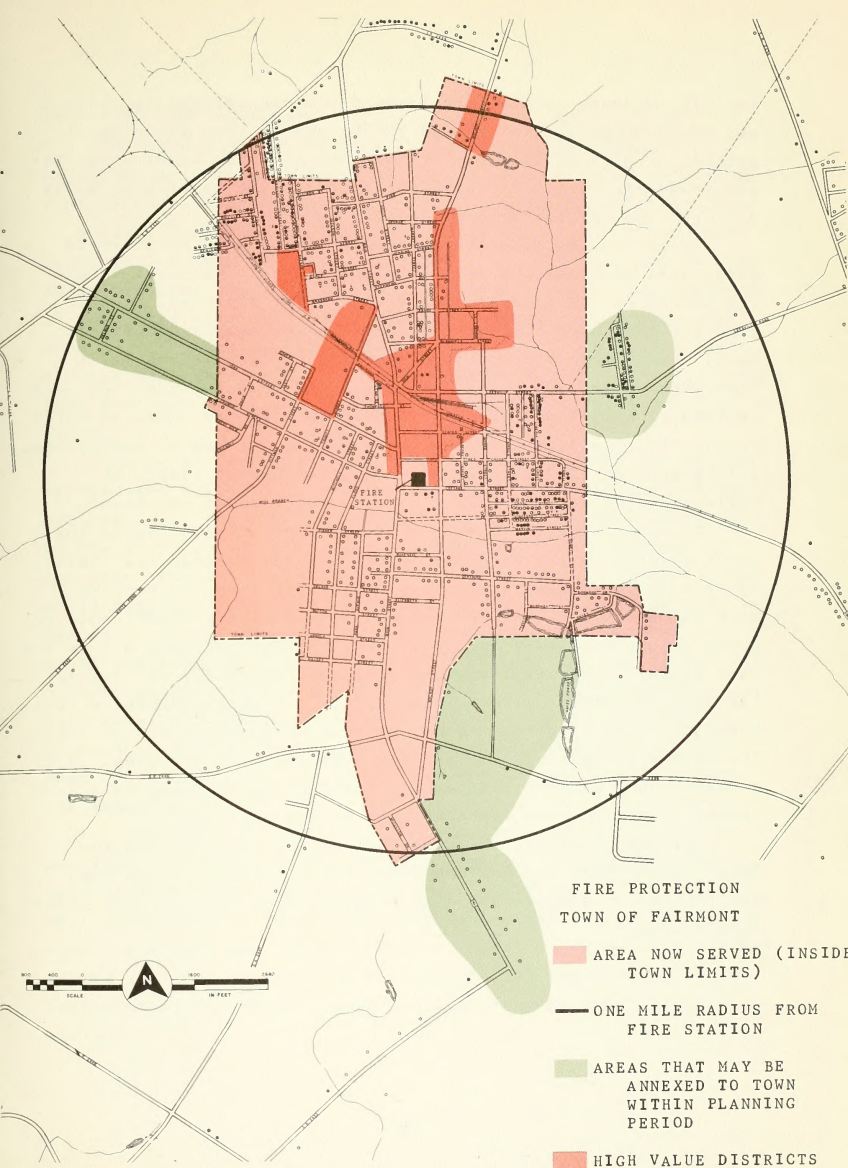
A well-equipped fire department provides safety for human life and property. At the same time, adequate equipment and an active fire prevention program are good business policies to follow; e.g., insurance costs are lower when a town maintains a good fire protection rating. Besides the physical and psychological considerations, these financial benefits should encourage a town to meet standards established by the National Fire Insurance Rating Bureau.

A fire department exists to minimize the damage to persons and property from fire, explosions, and natural disasters. Along with its fire fighting role, its function includes fire prevention through hazard detection and public education. In case of a large-scale disaster, the fire department would form the core of the volunteer rescue and damage control force and would be looked to for expert guidance by the entire community. This is reason enough for the town to be concerned over the quality and well-being of its fire-fighters.

Fire Station and Service Area

The town fire station is located at the southern end of the Central Business District on Cottage Street. Equipment is housed in the municipally-owned two-story block building that contains the town hall and jail. Upstairs is an apartment for the town's one full-time fireman.

The fire station serves the area within the corporate limits. Because of the small size of Fairmont, the one station can provide adequate coverage. A service area with a radius of one mile from the fire station would permit convenient coverage for this one station. The map on page 10 shows the relation of



the fire station to the high value districts and service area and areas which may be annexed during the 20 year planning period. A high value district includes schools, major commercial and industrial use. It should be noticed that annexation would not make the service area too large.

Calls from outside the corporate limits will be answered with rural equipment up to a 10 mile radius. Two rural trucks are housed at the fire station with the two municipal trucks. Fire protection to rural areas depends upon yearly membership fees. Rural fire protection membership is ten dollars for a farm with up to five buildings plus a one dollar charge for each additional building. The fee is five dollars per house in rural areas. If a call is answered for a person who has no membership, a flat rate of \$100 is charged. This fee cannot always be collected. Collectable fees are used to purchase equipment.

*The fire station is in a satisfactory location; it is the space allotted to the fire department that is inadequate. There is no room for training meetings and little room for working with the equipment. An additional bay for a fire truck could be used. A new one-story building, although desired, may not be the best answer to the problem. An entire building for the use of the fire department should house all fire fighting vehicles and, since the rescue operations are similar in manpower and training, the rescue vehicles should be housed in the same building. This problem could be more economically handled if the town hall were totally converted and expanded into a fire station.

The town receives no reimbursement for the space in the fire station used for housing rural fire equipment. The town has donated this space and also supplies \$300 per year for rural fire equipment.

Fire Fighting Equipment

The town's volunteer firemen are utilizing equipment valued at an estimated \$40,000. The main fire truck is a 1955 Ford (F800) 750 gallon pumper. This truck carries 1,200 feet of 2½ inch hose and 600 feet of 1½ inch hose. It also carries a 300 gallon tank for water, two ladders (a 25 foot and 35 foot) which together are tall enough to reach the top of all buildings in town, and foam used for fighting oil fires. The town also owns a 1927 LaFrance 750 gallon pumper with a 150 gallon water storage tank and 1,000 feet of 2½ inch hose. The fire department owns four gas masks and one resuscitator which are carried on the trucks.

The rural fire department has two trucks which are housed in the same building (town hall-fire station) with the municipal equipment. These rural trucks are not used to fight fires within the city limits unless the situation cannot be handled by the city trucks. In the case of a major fire, the rural trucks would supplement the operations of the municipal equipment. The two rural trucks are a 1952 Chevrolet with a 600 gallon tank, an auxiliary pump, and 300 feet of 1½ inch hose and a 1958 GMC with a 1,000 gallon tank, a 500 gpm centrifugal pump, 300 feet of 1½ inch hose, and 300 feet of 2½ inch hose. The county originally donated \$1,000 for beginning a rural department. Since then, most of the equipment purchases have been made from donations and fees.

Replacement of the 1927 LaFrance fire engine is most necessary within the next two years because of its age and ineffectiveness in some fire fighting situations. Otherwise, this department is adequately supplied. Minor equipment is always replaced and added as needed. Areas likely to be annexed during the 20 year planning period will not require additional equipment or the need to increase fire flow or water reserve system.

Personnel and Training

Fairmont's fire department is primarily a volunteer unit. The twenty-three (23) volunteers are led by a fire chief, one assistant, and two captains. The fire chief, who is one of the volunteers, was a fire instructor in the Army for six years. Since 1949 the town has hired one full-time fireman (the assistant). For the last seven years this employee has attended fire schools regularly as a supplementary training procedure.

The town provides a local training program to meet the 36 hours of training that are required each year by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. To meet this requirement the volunteers attend a two hour training meeting one night per week for 18 weeks and thereafter meet one night per month for a two hour period. The volunteers receive one dollar per each hour of training attended plus an additional two dollars for each fire in which they participate. The town does not have a training grounds specifically for the fire department but members get practice with simulated conditions. (There are no communities in Robeson County that have fire training grounds). From time to time, donated dilapidated structures are burned so that fire procedures may be enacted.

Fire Prevention Program

The fire chief inspects business and industrial establishments twice yearly. (Inspection procedures are made a part of the training course). Preventive measures are suggested to those establishment owners as needed.

Public education of fire hazards and public safety is conducted through films and school fire safety programs (including fire drills). The town recognizes "Fire Protection Week" during which publicity is distributed by posters, in newspaper statements and by announcements over the local radio station.

The fire protection program in Fairmont was given a National Board of Fire Underwriters rating of 7. The North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau uses the standards set by the National Board to rate a town's fire protection facilities and programs. With the scale of 1 to 10, the higher the rating, the lower the level of protection. Higher costs of fire insurance parallel the lower levels of protection. In very small communities where there are no sizeable water storage reservoirs and distribution lines, grades 7 and 8 are considered acceptable.¹ With a volunteer department, seven is a good rating for Fairmont at the present time.

Fire Communications

Fire alarms in Fairmont are called in by telephone. (There are no fire boxes for citizens to turn in calls). Volunteers are notified of a town fire by 7-8 blasts of a whistle that is mounted on the hotel. Rural fires are signaled by one long blast of a fog horn. Some members must come to the fire station to learn where the fire is; other volunteers are individually called by telephone. This procedure is ineffective because of a time lag before all volunteers are notified of the location of the fire. A telephone system whereby a single call from the town hall fire station would simultaneously ring in the homes of volunteers would reduce the time for an effective fire fighting squad to answer a fire call.

The fire department receives most fire calls from the surrounding rural area. There were 41 rural calls in 1966 compared to the 27 within the town limits. Most of the fire calls have been for grass fires. The last major fire was in a local tobacco warehouse in March, 1967.

¹ "General Provisions Pertaining to Public Fire Defenses," North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau.

Communication with two-way radios is not as effective as it should be. The chief and assistant have two-way radio equipment in their cars; however, there is none on the fire trucks and none in the fire department.

Recommendations

1. Considering the town's resources and population, the protection rating of seven is sufficient at present. It is important to the citizens not to let this rating be taken for granted. Instead, the town should strive to keep a favorable level of fire protection facilities that is within the financial means of the town.
2. The National Board of Fire Underwriters asserts that after a 20 year use period the utility of a fire vehicle is limited and should be replaced. Thus, the 1927 La France is far beyond its limit even though it is still operational. It is recommended that this truck be replaced or used only as a reserve vehicle in order to not jeopardize the town's insurance rating. When this truck and additional trucks are replaced in the future, the bays in the station may have to be remodeled for the new trucks to be adequately housed. For example, doors may have to be changed to provide clearance for the newer fire truck models.
3. Both the rural and town departments each need to replace a truck in the next two years. Within the latter part of the 1970's, the other city and rural trucks will need to be replaced.
4. A larger fire station is needed in Fairmont. The planning principles listed below are important considerations in selecting a fire station site. Because most of the enumerated standards reflect the present location,

- the site should be retained for the fire department.
- a. A fire station should be close to the Central Business District (high value area) and relate to the population density of the town, its building intensity, physical barriers, traffic pattern, construction type, and the existing degree of fire hazards. It should be close to major and/or secondary thoroughfares on a street that is wide enough to permit safe and quick movement of fire vehicles.
 - b. The station should not be located at major intersections nor should it be located on a one-way street.
 - c. Good sight distance should be possible (this requirement eliminates hilly sites and station sites on sharp, curving streets).
 - d. Berthing spaces should be accessible from both the front and rear, thus eliminating the need for backing trucks into the station.
 - e. The station should be located on a site of sufficient size to allow for future expansion.
5. In consideration of the above site standards, it is recommended that the fire station be expanded when the town hall is relocated. The assistant's upstairs apartment could be converted into a lounge, kitchen, and sleeping quarters for the volunteers to use. Training meetings could take place in the area presently serving as the town hall, or in the upstairs apartment area. If an additional bay for a fire truck was more needed, the town hall could be converted into that use.
6. Although the training program is adequate to meet requirements, it is suggested that the two captains, the assistant and/or the fire chief attend one or two State conducted week-long training sessions within the area. This procedure should be followed each year so that new procedures and techniques can be learned and in turn passed on to the other volunteers.
7. The fire fighting policy is good; however, attention should be given to the communications related to fire

calls. Fire alarm boxes are not financially feasible in a town the size of Fairmont. The present alert system is not adequate; therefore, in addition to the fire whistle the town should immediately install a centrex telephone alert system at the town hall/fire station. At a very small cost this system could immediately alert more of the members and tell them where the fire is. Two-way radios are needed in all fire trucks. This form of communication should be considered standard equipment on any new trucks that are purchased for the fire department.



RESCUE SQUAD

In 1962 a local volunteer rescue squad was organized. Community interest in the organization has increased. There are now fifteen (15) active members, many of whom also belong to the fire department. There are no membership fees. The rescue squad has training meetings every other Thursday night. There is no specific meeting place as training programs may be held at a river bank, swamp area, woods or lake. Four different organized training courses are offered to the volunteers.

Major equipment owned by the rescue squad includes: an ambulance (a converted 1960 Dodge station wagon), a panel truck with dragging equipment, boat and motor, resuscitator and an auxiliary light plant. The equipment was bought from donations and from the proceeds of money making projects such as square dances and "Rescue Squad Day." The rescue squad also receives \$600 annually from the county.

The rescue unit is mostly used for emergency work at the scene of bad automobile wrecks. Other services provided by this group include emergency standby at fires and public events, rescue or recovery of drowning victims, missing persons rescue, and for traffic direction when people are coming to and leaving public events. Both local and distant rescue calls are answered by this squad which is a part of membership responsibility to the North Carolina Rescue Squad Association. Joint efforts with other squads in the state have taken the Fairmont Squad to calls as far as Wadesboro (75 miles) and Rockingham (48 miles). Approximately forty (40) calls were answered during 1966.

The rescue squad is notified of a call by one long blast of the fire whistle. The volunteers must come to the town hall to find out the location of the needed rescue operations.

Present Facilities

The town leases a building on the north side of Center Street to serve as a police station and council chamber. The police office is located in the front part of this building in an area approximately 15 x 20 feet. The council chamber, to the rear of the police station, measures 50 x 60 feet. The council chamber was recently remodeled in December, 1966, and should be adequate for most of the planning period. The five year lease on this building expires in December, 1971.

An annual budget of \$22,400 or 14.1 percent of the total town budget was set aside to provide Fairmont with police protection for the 1966-67 fiscal year. This sum is to provide the necessary equipment and salaries for the five man force. If more money were available, more men could be hired to handle police functions. There is no person to stay in the police station at all times while another man on the force is free to patrol the community. This is the situation of the police protection that is provided only within the town limits. Protection in the one mile fringe area is the responsibility of the County Sheriff's Department. If the northern or eastern fringe areas are eventually annexed, the small force will be under greater strain to provide adequate protection. Additional men would be needed. Annexations to the western and southern fringe areas would not require additional manpower because these are the better residential areas of town. The most enforcement problems in Fairmont are known to be found in areas of poor housing and where there are concentrations of minority groups.

The low pay forces the town to lower the qualifying standards in order to get new policemen. Due to the nature of the work, the salaries should be increased to attract new manpower. With only five men on the force, an inadequate number can be assigned

to most of the shifts. A minimum of two men are needed on each of the shifts. At the present, only the night shift is manned by two men. Two years ago the force had to reduce its manpower by one man because of the limited budget. Presently there are not enough men to effectively enforce the laws of the town and handle the other police duties. When emergency situations arise during the day, the one policeman is expected to go to the scene. In this situation, the police station is left unattended and the remainder of town is unprotected. Because police operations are handled with a minimum of manpower, police education programs, compilation of statistics, and other office recording procedures are eliminated.

The Fairmont police can offer little in the way of special training. Most experience comes from on the job training. From time to time a member of the police force represents the town at special seminars which are held in Lumberton or another nearby city.

An organized school patrol is provided at both elementary schools by the sixth grade students. The police chief helps at the Fairmont School while a town-hired school patrolman (who is not a member of the police force) assists at Rosenwald School.

Major Police Equipment

The one 1965 Ford Custom four door patrol car is sufficient to handle police activity in Fairmont. This car, equipped with a two-way radio, will be kept until it wears out. This is not a desirable policy from the dependability standpoint. The useful life of a police car as used in Fairmont is expected to be about four years. Should this one car be involved in a wreck or need repairs, the police force is left without patrol coverage.

The two-way radio is about the only major equipment used for crime prevention. The police station has a two-way radio where direct contact is maintained with the County Sheriff and Highway

Patrol. A burglar alarm system, installed in three of Fairmont's firms, is hooked up to the police station.

Manpower, again, is more needed than equipment. If funds were available, an intoxication meter and radar speed detector would be given priority. Some filing equipment is needed in the office. There is no police training grounds or firing range for use by the Fairmont Police Department.

The predominant ~~enforcement~~ problem is break-ins. These have been difficult to defend against with the manpower now provided in Fairmont. The break-ins require much time which leaves little time for other police duties. Protection to the remainder of town is minimal under these conditions.

The Municipal Jail

The municipal jail is located two blocks from the police station in the rear of the fire department. This jail, made available in December, 1966, consists of three cells housing eight bunks. Total floor space of the jail is approximately 600 square feet. For the present, the jail is adequate; it is recognized as being a temporary facility in that no long term prisoners are kept there. If a prisoner cannot post bond he is taken to the county jail. There are no separate facilities for female prisoners; thus, they too are taken to the county jail in Lumberton.

The one full-time fireman doubles as the jailer. According to State law, a jailer must be present at all times when there is someone under custody. During January, 1967, the jail had twenty prisoners; in February there were but twelve (12) jailed. The most prisoners are locked up during the tobacco season when forty (40) or more persons per month are required to use the facility.

Recommendations

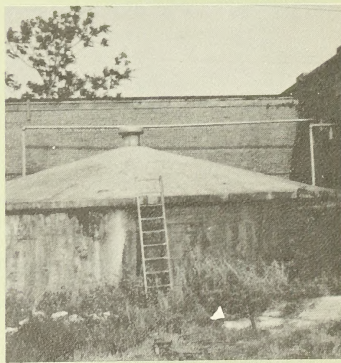
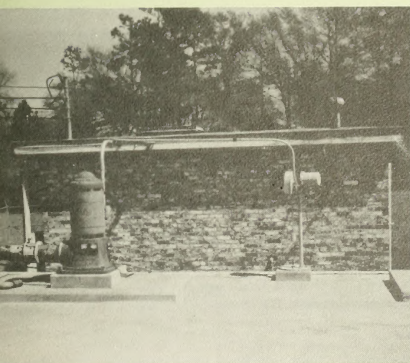
1. Better coverage in terms of police protection cannot be carried out until additional funds are allocated. More money could increase the staff by one or two men, provide equipment that is now lacking, or increase staff salaries.
2. The size of the staff is inadequate. One additional man would help alleviate the situation; two more policemen would bring the force to a more effective level of operation. Additional manpower would permit one officer to remain at the police station to keep records, dispatch communications, and work as an administrative representative of the police force to townspeople who come to the police station. It may be necessary to add three or four men to the force during the 20 year planning period. A second patrol car will be needed with an increase in the size of the staff.
3. More training should be given a policeman before he begins his work on the Fairmont staff. The town should require each member of the force to take some additional training or attend seminars that are held in the surrounding area each year. The town should provide funds for the staff to attend these training programs.
4. The present leased police station should be replaced with a larger office facility and more office equipment. It is recommended that the town jail be attached to the police headquarters so that one man might be the jailer and the on duty station officer at the same time. The police station should be included in the new proposed town hall complex.
5. The police force could plan and organize a community-wide fund-raising activity such as a "fun night," carnival, ice cream festival, baseball game, or something

of like nature. Any profit could initiate a police fund to provide extra equipment.

6. A community "police education" program should be organized. This could include lectures to school children, films, or safety demonstrations.
7. It is recommended that a county police and fire training center be organized and developed by the fire and police chiefs in the county. For each town in Robeson County to provide training areas would be difficult. On the other hand, a consolidated center could offer a more comprehensive program to all towns in the county at a minimum of expense. A police and fire training grounds would create a more professionally educated public employee. There are presently preliminary plans for a firing range for use by all police forces in Robeson County.



public works



Deep wells have been the source of Fairmont's water supply since the system was inaugurated in 1925. Of six originally drilled wells, three wells presently are in use. Only the well at Gertrude and Walnut Streets is pumped daily. This well, producing approximately 500 gallons per minute is normally pumped for 6 to 7 hours every day. The two other municipal wells do not have very good tasting water, and, consequently, the water from these two wells is used mainly for fighting fires. Table I indicates the location and characteristics of the water wells.

TABLE I
MUNICIPAL WELL DATA

<u>Well Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Depth (feet)</u>	<u>Diameter (inches)</u>	<u>Pumped Yield (g.p.m.)*</u>	<u>Use</u>
Gertrude and Walnut St.	Drilled	425	8	500 ^a	Potable water
Ice plant	Drilled	400	8	200	Emergency fire flow
Maple and Linden St.	Drilled and Gravel Packed	500	8	350 ^b	Emergency fire flow

* Gallons per minute.

^a Maximum pumping capacity 600 g.p.m.

^b Pumping capacity for this well.

Source: Records at Town Hall and Geology and Ground Water
Resource of the Fayetteville Area, No. 3, N. C.
Department of Water Resources, 1961.

The map on page 26 shows the location of the wells and also the water distribution area.

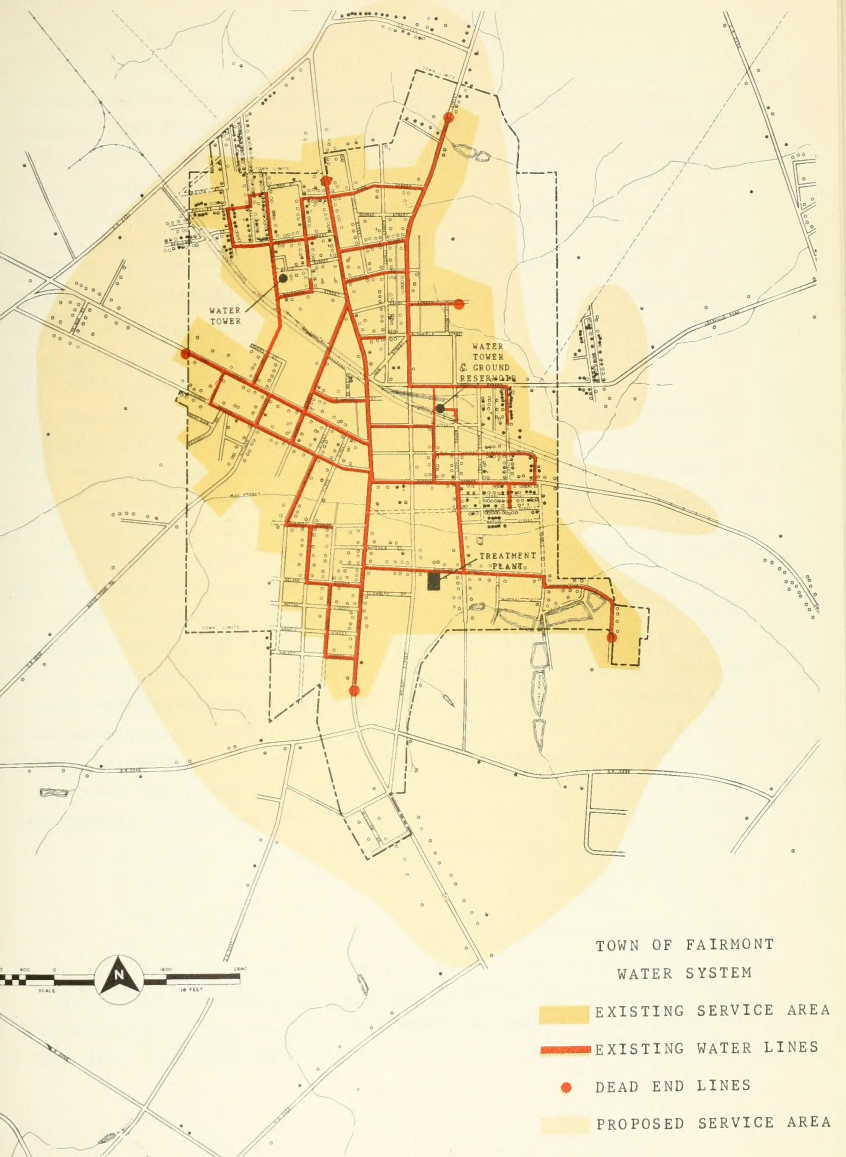
An aeration treatment is applied only to the water at the Gertrude and Walnut Street location. This facility was constructed in the spring of 1962. The process eliminates carbon dioxide that may be found in excessive quantities. Chlorine is added to the water at this site to make it suitable for human consumption. At the other two wells, there are excessive amounts of iron and manganese in the water. The chemical reaction of these two minerals discolors clothing, stains plumbing fixtures, gives the water a bad taste and color, and causes scale deposits to accumulate in the pipe. Since 1945 two wells at the ice plant and a third well on South Main Street have been closed and designated unusable because of the problems created by iron and manganese in the water.

Service Area, Distribution, and Storage

Distribution of water service is limited to within the corporate limits and to only a few residents outside of the town who had received the service before a change in policy. When there are annexations to the town, service is installed. (See service area map.)

The present system contains approximately 30,000 feet of water lines six inches in diameter and 10,500 feet of eight inch pipe. Pumping stations are located at each well site. No distribution problems are recognized at the present time. The six dead end lines and proposed water service extensions are mapped on pages 26 and 30. Service can easily be extended to areas not presently served with water. Repairs and additions to the system are installed as needed. Future requirements have not been diagrammed in recorded formal plans.

Storage facilities as listed in Table II indicate a 360,000 gallon storage capacity. Two of the four reservoirs are



100 foot elevated tanks that house 44 percent of the storage capacity. (See map on page 26 for the location of these reservoirs.)

TABLE II
MUNICIPAL RESERVOIR DATA

<u>Type</u>	<u>Tank Location</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Capacity</u> <u>(gallons)</u>
Elevated reservoirs	Ice plant	100'	60,000
	Rosewald School	100'	100,000
			160,000
Ground reservoirs	Ice plant		100,000
	Gertrude Street		100,000
			200,000

Water Consumption

Water from the Gertrude and Walnut Street well is consumed at a rate of approximately 150,000 gallons per day (or 54.7 million gallons per year). Peak consumption of nearly 200,000 gallons per day occurs during the tobacco drying season. Approximately 900 water meters installed at residential, commercial, and industrial establishments are in use. Storage tanks are kept full throughout the year so there is an adequate water supply. Peak consumption during August and September have been effectively handled in the past. With no extremely large gains in consumption, the future demand can be handled.

Problems of the Water System

The problem which should be of primary concern to the town is the use of and limitation to one well containing good water suitable for municipal distribution. If the main well develops problems whereby its use must be either terminated or temporarily

interrupted, the town will have no decent water supply. The problems of using the other wells have been previously considered. It is not economically feasible to attempt to counteract the iron and manganese with other chemicals.

There are no distribution problems now, but annexation would require new lines to be put in and an extension to the service area. Sections of town where growth is greatest may eventually be annexed at which time water service would be needed. The most developable areas in accordance with the Land Development Plan are to the west and south of town. The map on the following page indicates the proposed water line extensions.

Storage areas are adequate now also. If Fairmont would attract an industry that used large quantities of water, two or more problems might arise. The water demand might be in such great quantities as to require the drilling of additional wells -- a first problem. A second problem might be an industry that requires large amounts of treated water for its production process. This would greatly reduce the water supply available for human consumption. In peak months of consumption, the problem could possibly become very acute. The town would, in this case, have to supply another well so that a healthy surplus could be retained at all times. Having two or more good useable water wells could even be a primary attraction to industry.

Recommendations¹

1. A new well should be drilled as soon as possible for a supplementary source of water for the town. The existing well could serve an additional 1,000 persons but there would be no alternate source of good drinking

¹ Recommendations have been suggested in part by Mr. Marvin Pittman, Public Works Director in Fairmont, N. C. and by Mr. Dennis Fortune, a consultant engineer with Henry Von Oesen and Associates of Wilmington, N. C.

water if the main well would develop problems. A substitute well could be drilled at the ice plant. The questionable policy of "getting by" with one water source instead of having an acceptable replacement should be eliminated now. Complaints would be long, loud and numerous if the town were forced to resort to its present substitute. A second good well would provide facilities adequate to meet the needs of the projected population in the planning period.

2. The size of new water pipes should be capable of handling water for those areas on the fringe of town that are now outside the town limits. Within the planning period some of these areas may be annexed, thus requiring water service. (Proposed lines on p. 30).
3. The Town of Fairmont should have a consultant engineer analyze in detail the needs of the water system for the planning period.
4. The town should maintain better records of water treatment pumping measurements and consumption so that town officials can act when the capacity is being reached.
5. Within the planning period all 2-inch water lines should be phased out of use. This small line size is not accepted by the National Board of Fire Underwriters as being capable of providing adequate fire protection.
6. The town should encourage large water-using industries to drill their own well on a plot that is preferably 100 feet x 100 feet. Additional wells of this kind would aid the water distribution system and supply Fairmont with a supplementary water supply.



RESIDENTIAL
 CULTURAL
 SPECIAL
 INDUSTRIAL & WHOLESALE TRADE
 OPEN SPACE
 UTILITIES
 JOBS THROUGHFARES
 WORK THROUGHFARES
 COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL



PROPOSED SEWER LINES

PROPOSED WATER LINES

FAIRMONT, N.C.
 LAND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN



PROPOSED SEWER LINES

PROPOSED WATER LINES



RESIDENTIAL
 AGRICULTURAL
 COMMERCIAL
 INDUSTRIAL & WHOLESALE TRADE
 GOOD PLAIN
 THOROUGHFARES
 MAJOR THOROUGHFARES
 MINOR THOROUGHFARES
 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL



FAIRMONT, N.C. LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Present Conditions

Fairmont's first collector sewers and outfalls were installed in about 1924. The system has since been enlarged several times -- the most recent being in 1964. An estimated 95 percent of the population living within the corporate limits is now served by the existing sewer system.

The primary sewage treatment plant was constructed at the town's lowest elevation on Powell Street in 1939. It was designed for a population capacity of about 1,000. Now the plant is heavily overloaded as it receives the waste from about 2,400 people. The treatment facility includes a manual bar screen and grit chamber, pumping station, Imhoff tank, and a sludge bed.¹ Service is provided only to the incorporated area.

All of the municipality is served by a gravity sewage flow system except for a four block area west of Jackson Street and north of Oakwood Street. A lift station at Rosenwald School forces sewage from this area into the gravity line on Jackson Street. (Maximum pumping for this lift is 120 g.p.m.). A greater capacity could be realized by replacing this lift with a bigger pump. Trunk lines extend along drainage channels which meander to the three acre treatment site. Effluent from the treatment plant flows into Old Field Swamp to the east.²

¹ Von Oesen, Henry and Associates, "Engineering Report: Waste Treatment Facility for Fairmont, North Carolina," Wilmington, North Carolina, October, 1965, pp. 1-2.

² Refer to Topography and Drainage Map, Fairmont Land Development Plan, p. 9, and to discussion of sewerage system on pp. 14-15.

Proposed Treatment Plant

In October, 1965, Henry Von Oesen and Associates conducted an engineering study of the present sewerage system.¹ The report recommended that the system now used is very inadequate and should be replaced. (State officials of the Division of Stream Sanitation and Hydrology had come to the same conclusion earlier and told the town they would have to build a new plant). Plans included as part of the report suggested that an aeration process be the new method of treatment. The reasoning for the suggestion reflected the poor flow conditions and discharge due to level topography downstream from the plant and the nearness of residences to the plant site. Also, it was not considered to be economically feasible to relocate the plant. The primary disadvantage of the aeration plant is the slightly higher operation cost due to greater consumption needs of electric power.² The report placed a \$201,600 estimate for the new treatment plant facility - a figure subject to change depending upon the final design and the elapse of time between the estimate and construction. The final design will adequately serve a population equivalent of approximately 5,000.

The Town of Fairmont has adopted this engineering report which has suggested steps for obtaining funds to build the plant. Further studies to determine capacity and final design requirements are needed before a new system is installed. Once the treatment plant is installed, the town will be aligned with policies of pollution abatement and good health practices that are standards of the State Stream Sanitation Committee and State Board of Health of the State of North Carolina. The town's target date for completion of the new plant is in 1968.

The major problem of the sewage system, in addition to the old and inadequate treatment plant, are the old concrete lines

¹ Ibid.

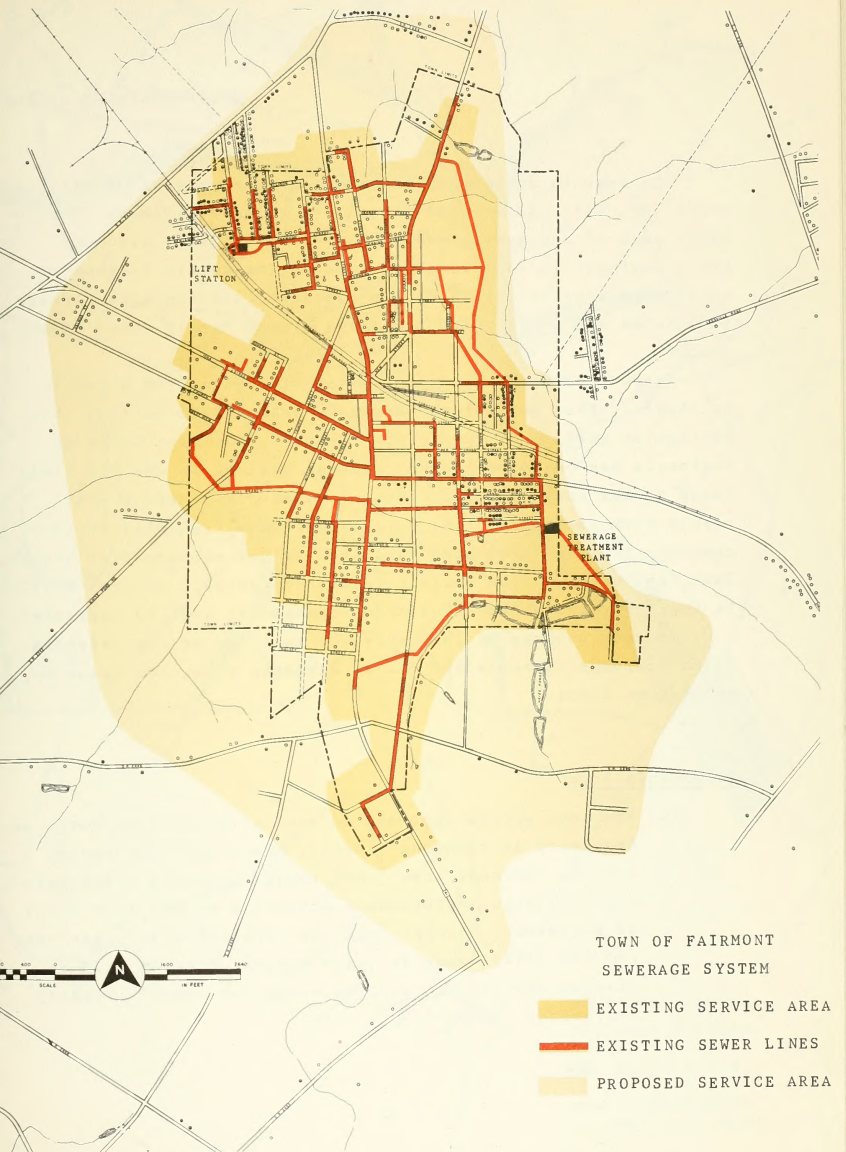
² Ibid., p. 5.

and the resulting infiltration of sand and ground water at the oakum joints. See maps of existing (page 34) and proposed sewerage system (pages 30 and 34).

Recommendations¹

1. Construction of a new treatment plant should be given priority. This facility will achieve accepted levels of State standards and provide a better atmosphere for the population of Fairmont.
2. Areas to be annexed within the planning period would need sewage facilities. Likely areas are to the south-east, south, and west of town. New sewers should follow drainage patterns and utilize gravity flow.
3. The town should have an annexation plan indicating areas that are most likely to be annexed during the twenty year planning period. The plan will give the town an idea of the extent of service that may become necessary. All additions of sewer lines will increase the burden of the sewage treatment plant.
4. The town should have formal engineering plans drawn of the proposed sewer extensions. These extensions should be programed for installation during the planning period.
5. More concise records of sewage treatment, pumping, lines, etc., are needed.
6. Industries should be encouraged to provide their own waste treatment facilities if their processing would make necessary this activity.

¹ Recommendations were a result of suggestions from Fairmont's Public Works Director, Mr. Marvin Pittman, and Mr. Dennis Fortune, consultant engineer of Henry Von Oesen and Associates of Wilmington, N. C.



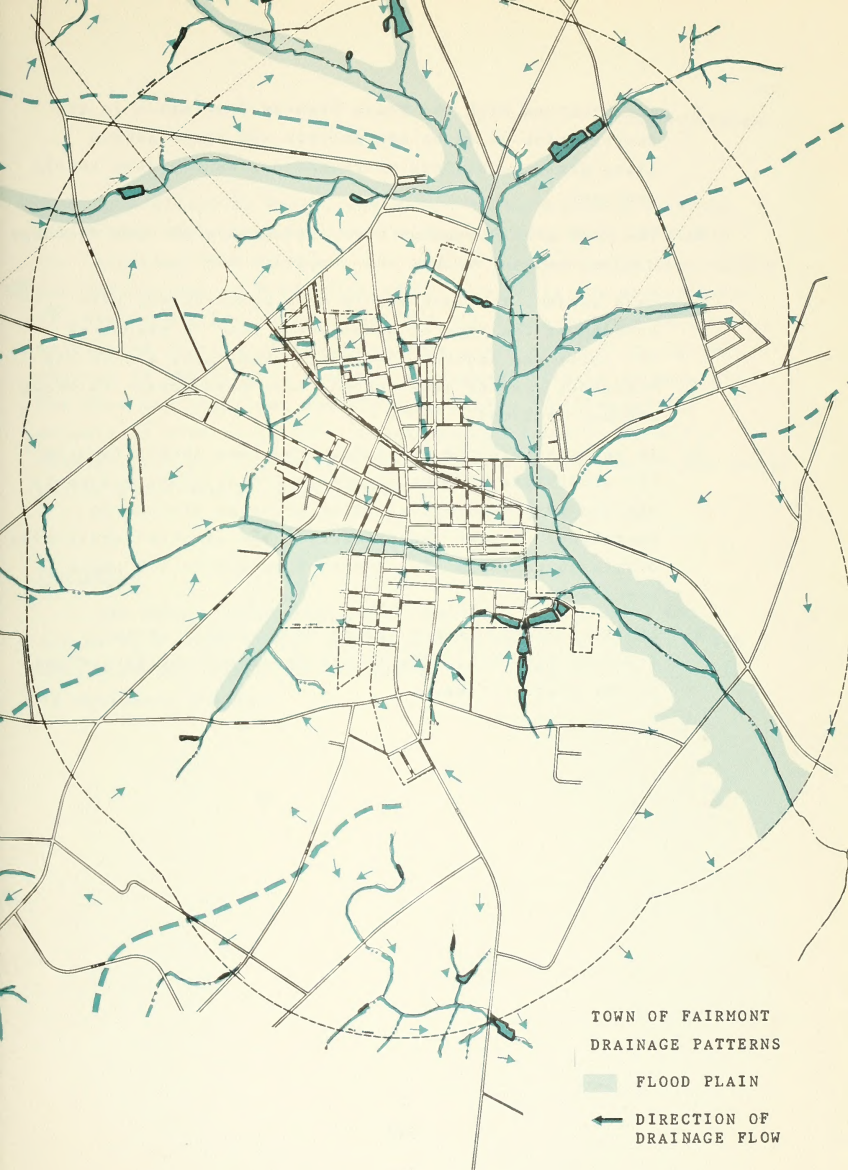
The town is drained by a system of storm sewers of varying sizes (8", 12", 15" and 24" pipes) and by open ditches. The major part of the system consists of open drainage ditches. Storm drainage in some areas of town is inadequate because of small pipe size, blockage within culverts, and the slow flowage in ditches and pipes which is caused by the nearly level topography.

Improvements to the storm system are handled on a day to day basis. When conditions worsen to necessitate action, that particular problem is corrected. Recently the Army Corps of Engineers has begun work on a drainage project in the Old Field Swamp to the east of town. Several immediate benefits will result from this work: the rate of drainage flow will be increased, thus draining some land that is now submerged or swampy; less land area will be subject to flood; mosquito control will be improved; and other unhealthful conditions will be corrected.

The map on page 36 indicates the location of the existing storm drainage channels and lines, drainage flow, and areas subject to flood.

Recommendations

1. The town should continue to work with the Army Corps of Engineers in planning a better storm drainage system for the Fairmont area. All projects should coordinate with drainage improvements scheduled by the Army Corps of Engineers. The project now underway will clean out the Old Field Swamp drainage basin. Ditches will be dredged and widened and the slope for runoff slightly increased.



2. Coordination with the State Highway Commission in the installation of curbs and gutters and storm sewers along state maintained thoroughfares in the town should continue.
3. The town should provide good maintenance on open drainage ditches located within the corporate limits.
4. Land subject to flood should have restrictions pertaining to the type of development that is permitted on it. Both the adopted Subdivision Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance provide some control over development in areas subject to flood.
5. As new subdivisions are added, the town should require the subdivider to make provision for drainage easements and the proper construction of drainage ditches to correspond to town requirements. The adopted Subdivision Ordinance provides the source of authority for these requirements.
6. The town should form a policy to deal with storm drainage problems. The future needs are not determined at the present time.

STREET SYSTEM

In addition to water, sewer, and storm drainage services, the Public Works Department maintains public streets. Within the corporate limits, the State Highway Commission is responsible for maintenance of 6.88 miles of streets while the municipality is responsible for 15.30 miles. Of the total mileage in town maintained streets, 10.33 miles were paved and 4.97 miles were unpaved in 1965-1966. (See map of unpaved streets on page 39.) The town has eight men who are responsible for keeping the streets in good condition: the Director of Public Works, a foreman, and six laborers. The same men are responsible for curb, gutter and sidewalk construction.

Equipment

The Public Works Department operates four trucks, two tractors, a motor grader and an asphalt roller to care for the town streets. Table III enumerates more specifically the type of equipment and use.

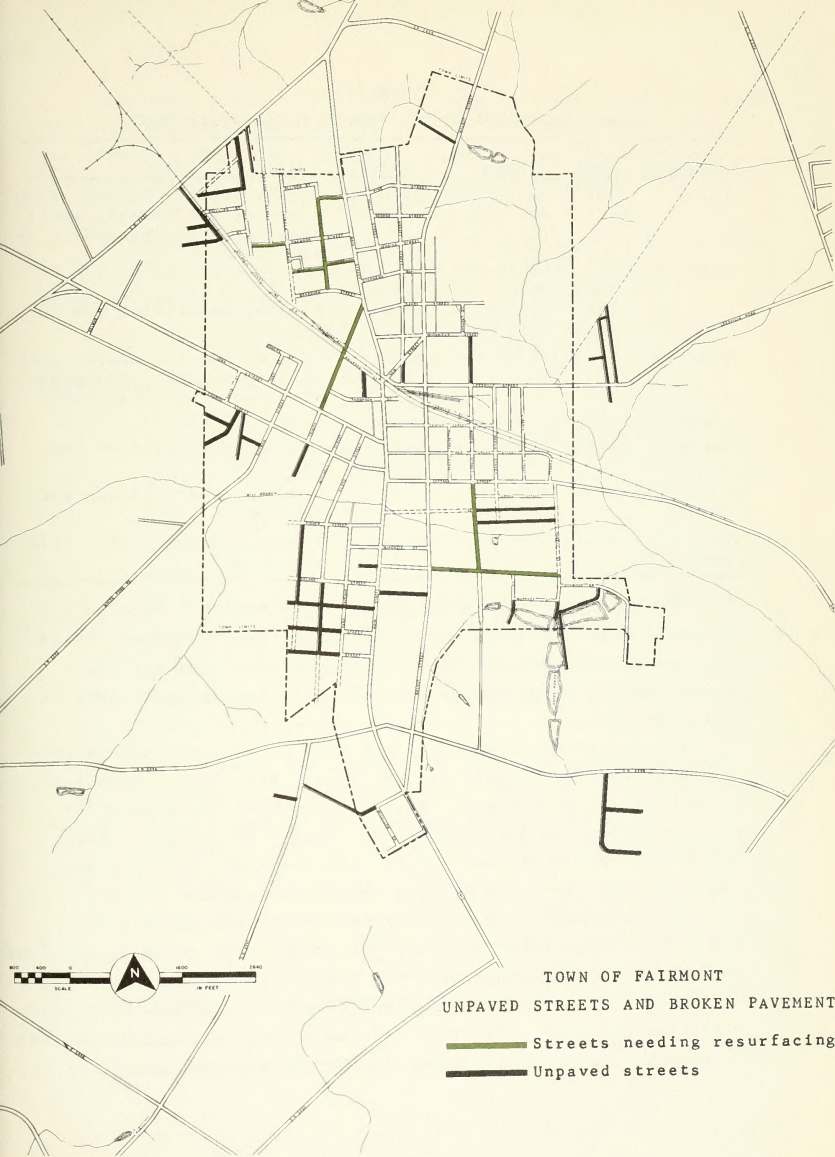


TABLE III
MAJOR EQUIPMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Equipment	Year	Make	Model	Use
Trucks	1967	Ford	Pick-up	Mainly used by Public Works Director and hauling small materials; equipped with 2-way radio.
	1965	Ford	2-ton)	
	1964	Chevrolet	2-ton)	Hauling materials, etc.
	1963	Ford	2-ton)	
Tractors	1964	Ford	2000 Series	Used mostly for mowing and pulling things. Equipped with side cutterbar and rotary mower.
	1961	Ford	4000 Series	Equipped with loader and back hoe.
Motor Grader	1953	Allis-Chambers		Grading road surfaces and berms.
Asphalt Roller	Nd.	---	3-ton	Purchased from State; road patching.

The policy of the Public Works Department has been to use equipment until it wears out. The majority of equipment is in good condition; however, the 1961 Ford tractor and the road grader are due to be replaced in the next few years because of continued wear.

The source of revenue for new streets and maintenance comes from the municipal budget and the Powell Bill Fund. Twenty-three percent of the town budget (\$36,645) has been designated for streets during the 1966-1967 fiscal year. In addition, the Powell Bill Fund provided \$13,289 for the same time period. (In 1965-1966 the State Highway Commission awarded \$12,767 through the Powell Bill Fund for the street maintenance in Fairmont.) Auxiliary funds for new street work could be received through state bond programs. The State Highway Commission has a "Three Million Dollar Highway Bond Program" which has funds set aside for Fairmont. The Town Officials could request these funds to provide a major improvement to the thoroughfare plan.

The major problem with the streets in Fairmont is that some need resurfacing. The asphalt on several streets has worn thin and then the street has begun to break up. An estimated two-thirds of all residential streets need resurfacing.¹ The Public Works Department is not equipped to resurface streets, so this work on town maintained streets must be contracted. On the map of unpaved streets on page 39, only the streets with the greatest need for resurfacing are shown.

Recommendations

1. Contracts should be extended for streets which need resurfacing. Some streets that need the most immediate attention are: Gertrude, Jackson, Trinity, Morro, Pine, Maple and Oakwood.
2. The most efficient street service can be given when equipment is in workable order. New equipment should be purchased as funds are available. Replacement of worn equipment should be given priority.
3. As mentioned in the later discussion of the town garage and storage yards, equipment should be housed in a shed or building when not in use.
4. The street crew should make a weekly effort to sweep streets clean of broken glass wherever necessary. This is a hazard to children and pedestrians as well as vehicles. This action would improve street conditions at minor cost to the town.
5. Town Officials should study the adopted thoroughfare plan and select a major improvement required by the plan during the planning period. Application should then be made to the State Highway Commission for funds designated

¹ Discussion with Public Works Director, February, 1967.

in the "Three Million Dollar Highway Bond Program" for use by the Town of Fairmont. The allotment to Fairmont was \$89,000.

6. A high school student could be hired during the summer for a couple of months to repaint street name posts. In many instances the lettering wears so as to be unreadable. This would be a great aid to visitors and to persons from out of town making deliveries. This project is likewise a very minor one but could be done very easily with no great cost.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection

Refuse collection is provided by the Town of Fairmont to all residential households and commercial establishments. Refuse is collected in residential areas at door pickups twice a week and in the downtown area daily. Industries are also served daily where needed. There is no service beyond the town limits in the fringe area.

The town uses a 1966 Truxmore garbage truck for the bulk of collection. When needed a flat body truck is added. With the new equipment that has been purchased recently, the refuse collection can be sufficiently handled for the next five years. In the remainder of the planning period, equipment needs will have to be met to retain an adequate level of service.

Four men who work regularly on the packer-type truck are a satisfactory sized crew to handle the refuse collection.

Refuse Disposal

The town uses a leased dump site (leased for free) to the northeast eight-tenths of a mile outside the town limits.

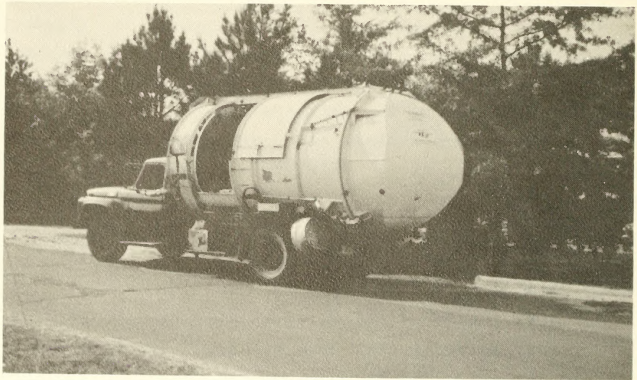
The process of disposal is by burning the trash which will ignite and by leveling the remainder of the material to provide space for more refuse. Only three acres of approximately eighty acres are now being used. This site is adequate for the planning period.

Recommendations

1. This aspect of community service has few problems as long as the trucks keep running. It is recommended that

there is regular maintenance of the trucks so that repairs may be made with as little interruption in service as is possible. When equipment becomes too worn or inefficient, new equipment should replace the old so that a good level of service can be preserved.

2. It is recommended that the town adopt the sanitary landfill method of refuse disposal. This procedure of waste disposal involves compacting rubbish and garbage and then covering this material with dirt. The sanitary landfill does not permit breeding of flies and mosquitos and greatly reduces the number of disease transmitters. Its use eliminates smoke and odors that often arise from open dumps. In addition, the sanitary landfill method is favorable because the landscape is not of the open dump variety but effectively hides the usual unsightly dumping of refuse. The N. C. State Board of Health's Sanitary Engineering Division can provide the necessary information and assistance pertaining to installation and operation of the sanitary landfill disposal method.



MUNICIPAL GARAGE AND STORAGE YARDS

The municipal "garage" and storage yards are located at the town-owned ice plant on Morro Street. An additional fence enclosed storage yard is at Linden and Maple Streets opposite Rosenwald School. The Public Works Director has headquarters at the ice plant where the vehicles (trucks and tractors) are kept.¹ Bulky supplies, such as sewer pipe, are stored at the other site. Repairs to equipment are done by a local automotive dealer.

The lack of space at the main storage area could be eliminated if the ice plant equipment were removed. The lack of space results from the unused equipment remaining in the unused ice plant. The two town tractors are parked under a lean-to shed roof; all other automotive equipment sits out all year.

There is no need to replace the storage areas if renovations are made at the ice plant.

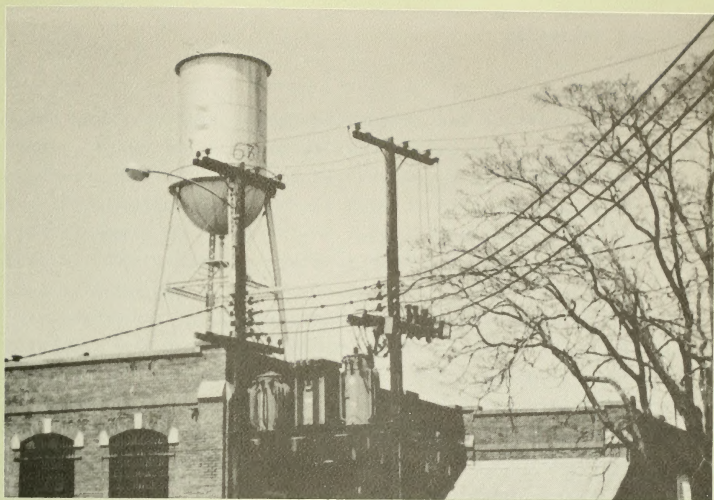
Recommendations

1. The site and building are capable of meeting present and future needs. It is recommended that the unused ice plant equipment within the building be discarded and minor renovations undertaken so as to render the entire building usable for municipal equipment. A paved yard and sheltered stalls for eight vehicles would be adequate.
2. Equipment which is now parked, piled, or otherwise located on the property could be easily fenced or screened so as to remove the eyesore from public view. As an alternative solution, this material could be stored inside the building. Fencing might provide the

¹ Ice plant was built in 1924 and is no longer in business.

second function of protection from vandalism. Screening for the stockpile area at Linden and Maple Streets should also be considered. The site does not enhance the appearance of the school grounds.





public utilities

TELEPHONE SERVICE

The Southern Bell Telephone Company has provided dial service to Fairmont since about 1955. Free service was recently incorporated for calls placed between Lumberton, Pembroke, Rowland and Fairmont. The Southern Bell Telephone Company has a collection agent in Fairmont and regular business offices in Lumberton. The company's district office for this area is located in Wilmington.

The Fairmont telephone service area includes Fairmont and an irregular surrounding radius of seven to nine miles. Within this area 2,367 telephones were listed as of December 31, 1966. The breakdown of customer service registered 231 business phones and 1,546 residential phones. The remaining 490 telephones were installed as extra phones in homes and places of business.

ELECTRICITY

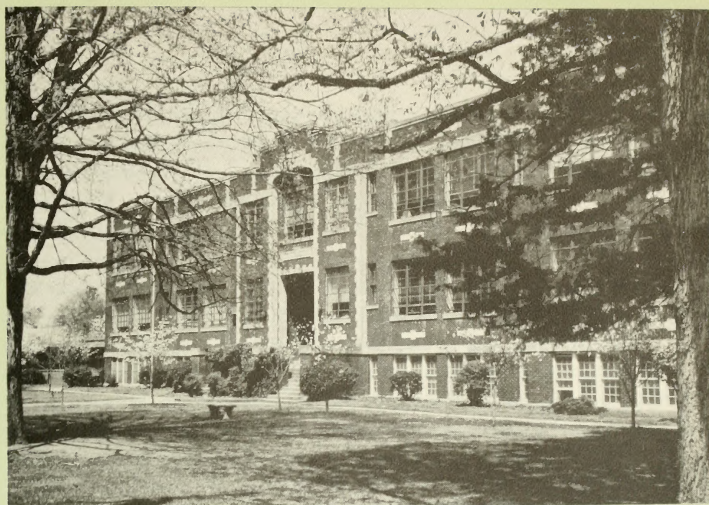
Electricity for the town is supplied by the Carolina Power and Light Company. The company has no maintenance offices or storage yards in Fairmont. The district maintenance office is in Florence, South Carolina, while a shop and storage yard are in nearby Lumberton. Carolina Power and Light Company does maintain a branch business office on Red Cross Street in Fairmont.

Street lights are installed and maintained by the power company. Their coverage is adequate in most areas of town. Street lighting is added only at the request of the town. It is up to the town to see that lighting is being provided to all areas and request the power company to install lighting where it

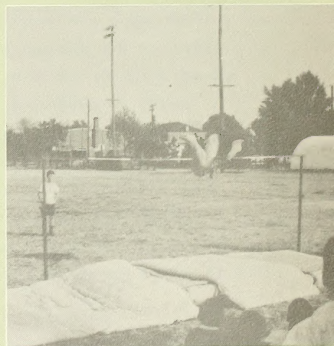
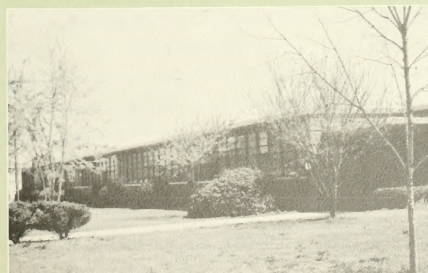
is needed. Better lighting in the downtown area and along the most heavily traveled thoroughfares is a desirable project for the near future.

GAS

There are no natural gas lines in the Fairmont area.



education



Education is one of the most important facets of community service. The public schools are vital in helping a community survive and realize its potential economic growth. Several functions are readily realized, but the most important is the general education of the youth of Fairmont and the surrounding area.

Fairmont has two school complexes located near each other on the west side of town. (See map on next page.) Both complexes include grades 1-12. The smaller of the two schools is the Rosenwald School situated at the west end of Maple Street. The 9.8 acre site is nearly surrounded by physical barriers. On the south and west is the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad; to the north and west is slum housing. Several vacant lots are available to the east of the present building. The original school building was erected on this site in 1928 followed by construction of seven more buildings and two additions (erected on the same site over the years). There are a total of 40 classrooms in the Rosenwald School used by grades 1-12.

An 11.5 acre site located to the southeast of Rosenwald School houses the Fairmont School. Forty-five classrooms are included in nine buildings. The original structure (and main classroom building) was erected in 1922 and renovated in 1963. The Fairmont Public Schools Administration Office is in a house on the same block. The Fairmont School is bounded on three sides by Pittman, Iona, and Trinity Streets; the railroad is a physical barrier on the north side.

The emphasis on education is different in Fairmont's two schools. The predominantly white Fairmont School emphasizes a college preparatory curriculum; the Rosenwald School, with a predominantly colored student body, has training with emphasis on a general education.

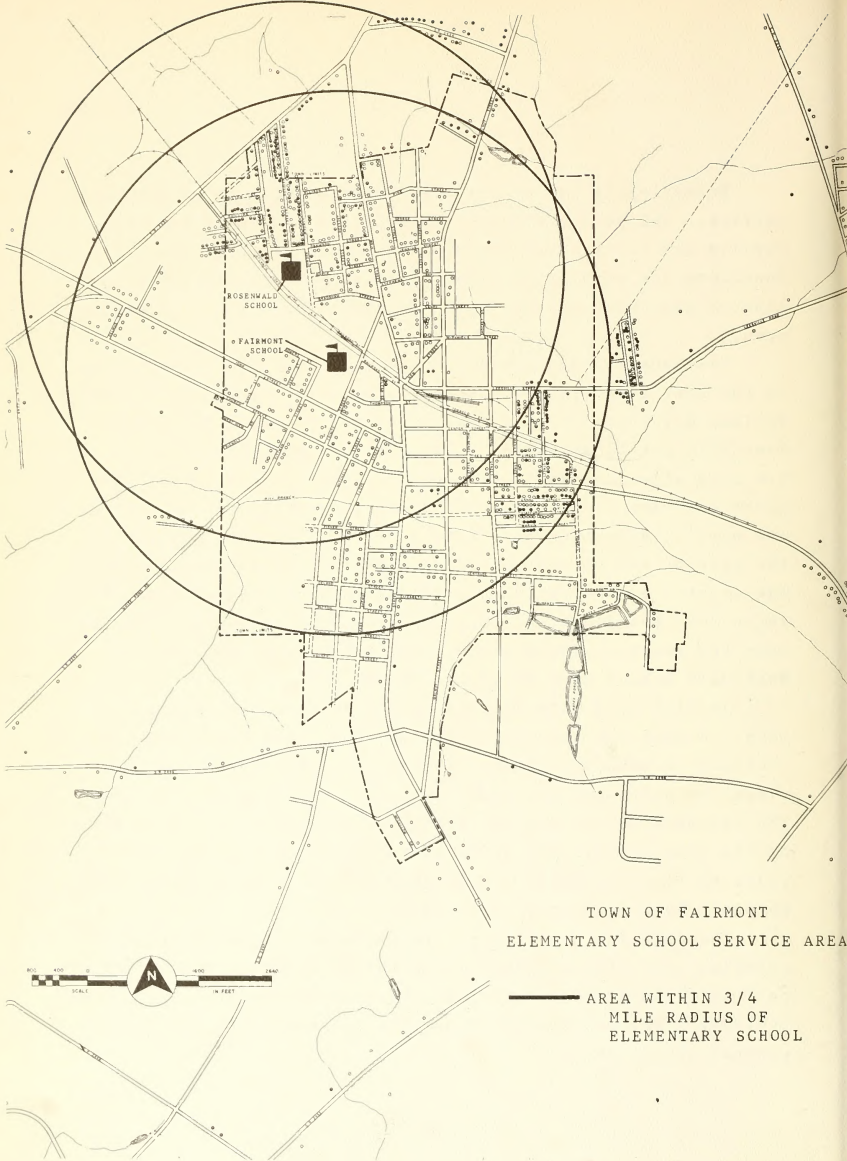


Table IV provides a summary of characteristics of the Fairmont School System. Enrollment in grades 1-12 in Fairmont totaled 2,050 students as of December 31, 1966. The Fairmont School with 1,100 of this total has a slightly larger enrollment. In each school only 110 more students could be handled as an absolute maximum enrollment. Some new classroom facilities should be in use before this increase is realized. An increase of this size is not anticipated in the near future but could materialize during the planning period.

TABLE IV
FAIRMONT SCHOOL SYSTEM^a

<u>School</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>No. of Classrooms</u>	<u>Student Capacity</u>	<u>Current Enrollment</u>
<u>Elementary</u>				
Fairmont	1-6	20	610 ^b	552
Rosenwald	1-6	18	586 ^b	536
<u>Junior High</u>				
Fairmont	7-8	6	210 ^b	186
Rosenwald	7-8	4	160 ^b	129
<u>Senior High</u>				
Fairmont	9-12	15	390	362
Rosenwald	9-12	13	315	285
<u>Totals</u>				
Fairmont		41*	1210	1100
Rosenwald		35*	1060	950

* Plus labs, gymnasiums, music rooms, cafeterias, libraries, multi-purpose rooms (see Table V on page 53).

Source: Supt. of Fairmont Schools, Mr. L. M. McLean. Data as of December 31, 1966.

^a The Fairmont School System, as used in this report, includes only schools located in Fairmont.

^b Division of School Plant Planning, N. C. Department of Public Instruction, has suggested these capacities are too high.

The grade school children are not separated from the junior and senior high students in practice as they have been in Table IV, by using grade divisions 1-6, 7-8, 9-12. The classrooms for grades 7 and 8 in both schools are not in a separate building from grades 1-6 and 9-12, but are mixed together. This is at times a disadvantage because of age group differences and classroom activities. Separate buildings based on a 8-4 or 6-2-4 or 6-3-3 grade division organization may be more desirable. This idea has been difficult to practice in Fairmont because of the necessary arrangement of classrooms and buildings that are now available for use. The existing buildings were not planned at one time to meet the enrollment now realized.

There are several rooms in the school buildings that are not teaching stations but are for student use. These additional rooms, enumerated in Table V, are only a record of what exists in the two schools. Comparison shows that both schools have a similar number of special purpose rooms for student use. Administrative offices, locker rooms, etc., have not been included in this inventory.

TABLE V
NUMBER OF SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSROOMS
FAIRMONT SCHOOL SYSTEM

<u>Room Type</u>	<u>Fairmont</u>	<u>Rosenwald</u>
All purpose rooms	1	1
Auditorium	1	0
Cafeteria	1	1
Guidance center	1	1
Gymnasium	1	1
Health room	1	1
Laboratories	3	3
Library	1 (H.S.)	2 (Ele. & H.S.)
Music	3	2
Special education	1	1 (Ele.)
Wood shop	1	1

As shown in Table VI, the Fairmont School System employs a total of eighty-four (84) teachers. Thirty-seven (37) teachers instruct at the elementary level (1-6) while another thirty-nine (39) teach in the upper six grades. In addition to the regular classroom teachers, the school system maintains eight special instructors.

It is not the purpose of this report to analyze the adequacy of the student per teacher ratio. However, the ratios in the elementary grades should remain in line with standards set by the Department of Public Instruction. Most authorities agree that the maximum class size for elementary schools should be in the range of 20-30 pupils and high schools should have class sizes of 20-25 pupils. North Carolina accreditation requirements permit maximum class sizes in both elementary and high schools without penalty, but at the same time discourage classes of this size.

TABLE VI
TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY THE FAIRMONT SCHOOL SYSTEM,
DECEMBER 31, 1966

Grades	Fairmont		Rosenwald		Total No. Teachers
	Teachers	Students Per Teacher	Teachers	Students Per Teacher	
1-6	19	29	18	30	37
7-8	6	31	4	32	10
9-12	<u>15</u>	24	<u>14</u>	20	<u>29</u>
Subtotal	40	x	36	x	76
<u>Special Instructors</u>					
Music Teachers	1		2		3
Librarian	1		1		2
Special Education	1		1		2
Speech	<u>1</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>1</u>
TOTAL	44		40		84

x does not apply.

Source: Superintendent of Fairmont Schools, Mr. L. M. McLean.

As a means of planning for adequate school locations to serve a given population, service area radii are utilized. An elementary school should service an area where travel time by walking is 30 minutes or a walking distance not greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. Referring again to the map on page 50, we see that the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile service radius applied to both existing schools encompasses almost the entire town.¹ This is a healthy situation; however, the town should encourage development within this service radius so that a new elementary school will not be needed. For example, if residential development continued to the south and southeast of town and if this area and population were annexed to the town, it would not be long until the town would have to consider building an elementary school to serve the school aged population in that portion of town. This gives the area west and southwest of town a good case for residential development.

In a town the size of Fairmont, service areas for high schools are not as meaningful because students are bussed in from outside the corporate limits. High schools usually serve larger geographical areas. The high schools in Fairmont are adequately located to serve their student body.

Both schools have parking areas provided for the faculty and staff. Visitors and senior high students must park on nearby streets. This situation causes problems of congestion especially at the beginning and end of the school day around the Fairmont School.

Just over half of the student body in both schools are bussed to school. One hundred and fifty students are bussed

¹ National Council on Schoolhouse Construction, Guide for Planning School Plants, 1958, as presented in Table 3, "Recommended Maximum School Walking Distance Standards" in ASPO Planning Advisory Service, Information Report No. 175, American Society of Planning Officials, Chicago, August, 1963, p. 8.

Note to Footnote: School districts are entirely independent of town limits. The areas in Fairmont are not coterminous.

from outside the district. The Rosenwald School makes use of nine busses and the Fairmont School uses twelve busses, a procedure that eliminates much congestion around the school grounds.

Enrollment in Fairmont Schools is expected to be stable through 1980.* If building is to be done during the planning period, it would fulfill the purpose of replacement needs rather than those of expansion. The oldest classroom building at both school sites should be replaced.

The most needed, school authorities feel, is a separate consolidated high school. Such a high school would combine either those schools in the Fairmont system or all of the small high schools in the southern part of Robeson County. The extent of consolidation has not been decided because of ethnic considerations, several townships which would be involved in the event of consolidation, and State regulations which require preliminary conditions and actions before a site can even be chosen. If a high school consolidation were to materialize, the present complexes in the Fairmont system would remain for the use of grades 1-8 and the oldest buildings would be phased out of use. Because of the unstable situation, no target dates for such a project have been set.

The schools serve as a cultural and social hub of the community. Facilities are not limited just to an age group of 6-18 year olds. The community as a whole has the opportunity to benefit from school affiliated activities. School events such as band concerts, plays, school exhibits by different classes, and athletic events are all open to public attendance. In addition, adult education classes of high school level are offered at night. The schools also serve as a meeting place for different organizations. Community groups have rented either a

* Source: Discussion with Fairmont School Superintendent, January, 1967. Also see Table 35 in the Fairmont Population and Economy Study on page 60 entitled "Fairmont School District Population Projections," (May, 1966).

cafeteria or gymnasium for activities because they provide a larger meeting place than could be found elsewhere in the town.

The school administration would like to encourage public use of the high school library facilities. Although there has been no active encouragement, the school permits public use of the library. Both high schools maintain libraries with 8-10 books per student. The libraries are open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Formal education does not need to stop with a high school program. Although the community has no post-high school educational programs, Fairmont is within a thirty-mile distance of the following facilities for those who wish to further their education:

<u>School</u>	<u>Town</u>
Fayetteville Technical Institute (Branch of)	Lumberton
Pembroke State College	Pembroke
St. Andrews College	Laurinburg
Selenia Commercial College	Lumberton
Southeastern Community College	Whiteville

The Future

In the process of finding a solution to proposals of expanded school facilities, it must be recognized that this problem involves more than just the planning area as defined in this report. First of all, there is need for reorganization of the County School System into one administrative unit rather than six units. Fewer units will permit a higher level of leadership to the entire system, provide a larger and better equipped facility than is now available for any school, and present a greater number of educational opportunities to the high school students in the Fairmont area. This one administrative unit would be in line with recommendations expressed by the Department

of Public Instruction. Eventually all school systems in the state with less than 5,000 students are expected to be combined.¹ With a new organized county school system, fewer administrative conflicts could be expected.

Secondly, and for the same reason suggested above, Fairmont should not be thought of as a separate school unit. Rather, all of southern Robeson County should be treated as a planning unit.² The high school sites in this area could be converted to elementary schools. In 1961 a school survey was taken in Fairmont and South Robeson County. At that time, the Division of School Plant Planning recommended that no major expenditures be made by any of the separate school systems for additional high school facilities until a mutual agreement was reached with respect to future organizational plans for the total area. In addition, it was shown that future enrollment trends will not show sufficient growth to warrant building high schools of desirable size in the Fairmont Unit. The study, therefore, advised that Fairmont "consider the advisability of relinquishing its administrative independence and being absorbed into the Robeson County Administrative Unit in the interest of establishing adequate high schools for the pupils of both South Robeson County and Fairmont."³ We concur with these recommendations and would add the following suggestions:

1. School plant planners should conduct a study of the feasibility of consolidating school districts in Robeson County. Each of the six Boards of Education in the county should request a study to be made by the Department of Public Instruction, Division of School

¹ Discussion with Dr. J. L. Pierce, Division of School Plant Planning, Department of Public Instruction, January, 1966.

² Ibid.

³ North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, "School Survey: South Robeson County and Fairmont," Division of School Planning, March 29-31, 1961, (11 pp), p. 8.

Plant Planning. No local money is needed to obtain this service.

2. There is a need for the reorganization of the school system and a consolidation of districts. Fairmont should become part of the County School System as soon as possible.
3. Since a new high school is an essential building for this planning period, now is the time to choose a favorable site that meets State standards. Where an entirely new complex is to be erected, the site for a high school should be a minimum of 35 acres in size according to the Division of School Plant Planning of the Department of Public Instruction. Forty to forty-five classrooms would be needed immediately.
4. If a consolidated high school becomes the goal for southern Robeson County, the logical site would be near Fairmont due to its geographical location, the municipal sewerage and water systems, and fire and police protection that could be provided by the town.
5. Some of the older buildings in the Fairmont School System need to be phased out of use. After they are used for forty years, the Department of Public Instruction considers these facilities to be out of date. Major renovation of a building older than this is usually not economically desirable, although it should be considered.
6. Lower the student per teacher ratio wherever necessary to conform to standards set by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.
7. Dual purpose facilities can sometimes be planned together. Perhaps park land could be bought adjacent to a future high school site. Both the school and adjacent

park land could be designed to serve the South Robeson County area.

8. The present sites are unfavorable for expansion in several respects. Land available to the east of Rosenwald School is not desirable because the property would then surround city water tower and storage yard, eliminate a school play area, and add to an unplanned sprawl of buildings. Expansion to the Fairmont School would be difficult in any direction except to the northwest. The main expansion problem remains with the Fairmont School because the existing buildings are close together and prohibit new construction that would otherwise be desirable on this property. A new consolidated high school site of 35 acres located to the southwest of the town is recommended. This school should be built within the 20 year planning period.

Fairmont does not have a public library. During the past decade the Junior Women's Club of Fairmont has tried to stimulate some interest in beginning a library. They have willingly collected and repaired approximately 3,000 books.

The books which have been collected were in two upstairs rooms in the Waccamaw Bank Building. Renovation of the bank, initiated in February, 1967, necessitated the removal of these books to a new site because the bank planned to utilize the entire building after renovation. The books are now being kept in the upstairs of the Guaranty Savings and Loan Building until a more permanent building can be obtained.

The library project of the Junior Women's Club has been at a standstill since they have received word that they must vacate the bank building. The project was still in a "collection stage" of development. No books had been circulated and cataloging was not complete.

The Junior Women's Club has done the work on a volunteer basis. Additional help was received from the Junior Chamber of Commerce; the Jaycees built several bookcases, and cleaned and painted the rooms in the Waccamaw Bank that they were about to use for the library.

Financial support of the library has come from the Junior Women's Club and the town budget (\$600 for 1966-67 fiscal year).

Recommendations

1. Robeson County is one of two counties in the state without a county-wide library system. The North Carolina Library Association prefers a town to become a part of a county system before it begins to operate a separate library. In Robeson County, Maxton, Red

Springs, and Rowland are all listed as having public libraries. These facilities can be summarized as follows:

<u>Library</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>1960 Population</u>	<u>Hours Open*</u>	<u>Total Volumes**</u>
Gilbert Patterson Memorial	Maxton	1,755	17	5,149
McMillan Memorial	Red Springs	2,767	11	2,700
Rowland Public	Rowland	1,408	5	3,000

* Per week.

** Total volumes as of 1965-66.

A higher level of library service could be extended to all of the communities in Robeson County if they would become a part of the county system. It is suggested that Fairmont initially work towards instigating a county library system in Robeson County.

2. A permanent public library building is needed in Fairmont. Several ways are possible to provide Fairmont with this facility. Recommended in the Land Development Plan (page 68) was a new library building to be built on the site adjacent to the present town hall. This suggested site should be eliminated because of recent developments. However, a library included within a municipal building would also be at a distinct disadvantage. The state provides no funds for library facilities that are part of a multi-purpose building. Hence, the town should attempt to provide a permanent library in a separate building if possible. (Red Springs was able to benefit from a donation and, therefore, it was no longer necessary for the town to try to build a library.)
3. Library service in Fairmont should follow these North Carolina Library Association standards:

Size of Staff: There should be one full-time staff member for every 3,000 people served in the area. Fairmont would need only one full-time staff member.

Professional Service: Each library system should have the services of at least one NCLA certified librarian.

Attractive Appearance: Adequate physical facilities are a necessary requirement for good public library service. These facilities should offer to all age groups in the community a compelling invitation to enter, read, look, listen, and learn.

Size: In size, the physical facilities of a public library system should provide approximately one-half square feet of library space for each person in the area to be served. The smallest branch of a public library system should contain a minimum of 1,500 square feet.

Site: The site of a library building should be at a point where all the people of the entire community served will pass the doors of the library building frequently in the normal pursuit of their day-to-day activities. Such a site will be in the principal retail shopping center for the area to be served by the library. It is reasonable to

pay from one-fourth to one-half as much for a good library site as the cost of the building. A major provision should be the inclusion of ample off-street parking on any chosen site.

ADDENDA

In June, 1967, a three (3) year lease was taken by the Town of Fairmont on the F. F. Thompson building on Main Street for use as a public library. This building was formerly used by the local newspaper. Although this new location follows some of the above standards, the Town should continue to consider building a new and separate library in Fairmont that would provide room for expansion, suitable off-street parking, and a downtown location.



health and medical



COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES

The county health facilities are located on the outskirts of Lumberton at the fork of routes 72 and 711. County health services in Fairmont are centered around the immunization clinic held on the second floor above the Fairmont Drug Store every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 - 3:15. The Fairmont area also receives the services of a Public Health Nurse two-three days per week and a Sanitarian two days per week. These two persons are a part of the Robeson County Health System. The present personnel are considered by the County Health Supervisor to be adequate for the services extended to Fairmont. No future plans have been made to provide more health services to Fairmont.

MEDICAL CLINIC

The size of Fairmont's population does not warrant construction of a hospital. Hospital services are obtained in Lumberton at the Southeastern General Hospital, a 265 bed facility. Most surgery required by residents of Fairmont is done at this hospital. Only very minor surgery can be done with the facilities Fairmont now has.

Present medical facilities consist of a one story brick medical clinic located at 208 Iona Street. The clinic leases space from the optometrists who own the building and who also have their offices in the building. There are no overnight facilities in this building. A laboratory, an emergency room, two doctor's offices, medical records and secretarial office, and a waiting room constitute the space leased by the clinic. This clinic serves an estimated 3,000 families in the Fairmont area.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Although ambulance service is considered by many funeral home operators as an unprofitable business, both private funeral homes in Fairmont continue to offer this service. Additional service is given by the rescue squad but only as a result of emergency operations. It is very possible that within the planning period this unprofitable aspect will be phased out of the funeral home operations.

CONVALESCENT HOMES

There are now two colored nursing homes in operation near Fairmont. Both are outside of town. Bebe's Rest Home, the larger of the two, is on N. C. 130 (east) just beyond the cemetery. It is constructed of concrete block. The second convalescent home is on the other side of town on White Pond Road. This convalescent home, known as "Sunnyview" is in a deteriorating condition; maintenance is badly needed.

A third convalescent home has been proposed for Fairmont by a private investor. Entitled "The Fairmont Geriatric Center," this proposed 50 bed I-shaped complex will be located on Pine Street. The 150' x 115' building will occupy a lot measuring 300' x 290'. Its patients are expected to be primarily whites.

Only the proposed facility approaches standards for convalescent homes. General literature on nursing homes and suggested standards concur on the need for location of a nursing home within an established community. The new home will be in a fringe area. The very name "nursing home" implies that what is desired is a medical facility in a non-hospital environment. The

Nursing Home Standards Guide of the U. S. Public Health Service emphasizes this fact throughout its discussion of standards. It states that "persons living in institutions have a right to live as fully as possible within the limits imposed by the group setting. To achieve this end, full utilization of all social and related services of the community is essential."¹ It also states that residents should have access to general community activities such as churches and shops. The proposed site for the new facility will be seven blocks from downtown.

The Health and Welfare Council recommends that facilities for the aged should be integrated into existing neighborhoods and must be considered in relation to availability of transportation (there is no public transportation in Fairmont), shops, churches, parks, and related facilities.

Both from the administrative and economic view, an extremely small home suffers from high operational costs. As one source has written, "available data indicates that there is a cost penalty below the 50-100 bed range which is usually paid for by the patients in terms of lower standards of care."²

Below are additional criteria that should be used in considering the proposal for the new nursing home:

1. The nursing home should be within each access to police and fire protection, shopping, and community medical facilities.
2. The nursing home should preferably have a bed capacity between 40-100 beds.

¹ Public Health Service, Nursing Home Standards Guide, (U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1961, p. 1).

² Charitable Research Foundation, Inc., Effective Standards For Institutional Care of the Infirm Aged, Wilmington, 1959, (page 108), and Kaplan, Ethan Z., A Guide For Appropriate Nursing Home Facilities, St. Louis County Planning Commission, August, 1963.

3. The nursing home should contain facilities for an adequate lounge and visitors area.
4. The nursing home should make adequate use of its site in terms of properly planned recreational areas including walking and sitting areas.
5. The nursing home should be compatible with the existing or planned land use and density of use in the area.

CEMETERIES

The only public cemetery within the corporate limits of Fairmont is completely filled. This is the small cemetery located on Main Street opposite the hotel. Two cemeteries outside the town limits for public use provide enough space for the deaths which will take place during the planning period. The public cemetery on N. C. 130 east of Fairmont, established in 1910, is nearly filled. When the few remaining plots are taken, the main cemetery will become the privately owned and operated R. O. Floyd Memorial Cemetery on SR 2433 north of Fairmont. Established in 1948, this facility has adequate surrounding surplus land to effectively meet Fairmont's needs in the future. The R. O. Floyd Memorial Cemetery has a planned design that is aesthetically pleasing. The other two cemeteries need some buffer screening to provide a more attractive appearance.



recreation



Planning for recreational facilities in Fairmont is an immediate need. Because of increased amounts of leisure time, demands for both passive and active recreational facilities will become more difficult to satisfy. Besides fulfilling health and aesthetic values, recreation has an economic value to the community. Industry has for some time recognized the benefit of a good recreation program and facilities. The availability of recreation, or the lack of it, could mean the difference between selection of Fairmont over another community for the location of a new plant. The town should be made aware of the value of recreational facilities and strive to provide more active and passive recreational areas. This is the intention of this section of the Community Facilities Plan.

Standards and Planning Principles

The standard recommended by the National Recreation Association is ten acres of recreation land per 1,000 persons. Therefore, twenty-five acres of land for public recreational use is a goal that Fairmont should seek to achieve. The present acreage is far below this figure and all but one acre of it is part of the school property.

Several planning principles apply to a well-balanced system of recreational areas. This goal of balance in recreation facilities is likely to be achieved if designed to meet the following criteria:

1. Provide areas and facilities that make possible a great variety of recreation activities and opportunities for all, regardless of age, color, race, creed or economic status.

2. Include areas that are equally distributed, that differ widely in size, location, natural features, and potential development, and that consequently serve different recreation uses.
3. Provide a playground in every residential neighborhood, preferably for use day by day and during brief periods of leisure.
4. Provide other areas that require more space, for example, picnic areas and ball fields, and develop them for recreation activities that require longer periods of use.
5. Provide an appraisal of existing local recreation resources and needs with the full cooperation of citizens; municipal, school and planning authorities; and other interested agencies.¹

Thus far, most recreation in Fairmont has been on an individual basis. No program has been developed whereby some of the above principles could be followed. The impetus needed to seek out possible improvements or new programs of recreation would be the creation of a Parks and Recreation Commission. Hopefully, this organization would work closely with the Planning Board and the North Carolina Recreation Commission. Such a local Commission could help give direction to the type and location of the facilities needed in Fairmont.

Existing and proposed recreational facilities in Fairmont, shown on page 71, include the following:

School Recreation Areas:

The Fairmont School has the best variety of recreational facilities in Fairmont. On this property are the following:

¹ International City Managers' Association, Municipal Recreation Administration (Municipal Management Series), 4th Ed., Chicago, 1960, pp. 62-63.



a football field with bleachers, a lighted baseball diamond, two open field areas for games, two hard-surfaced tennis courts, an outdoor basketball court, volleyball (dirt) court, swing sets, monkey bars, and teeter-totters. A concession stand located at the south end of the football field is used for some athletic events. Several of these facilities were provided by the Booster Club. Rosenwald School has fewer and inferior facilities: two play areas, a baseball diamond, two hard-surfaced tennis courts, and swing sets.

Recreation facilities are actively used by the school children. Like anything else that is constantly used, recreation equipment will wear out. The Board of Education should make a survey of present equipment and determine what new equipment is needed or what should be replaced. The enrollment figures and appearance of equipment suggest a need for installation of more equipment for elementary school children at both schools.

Golf Course:

A private nine-hole golf course is located on state road 2296 southwest of Fairmont. The 31 acre course is adequate for the present time except during summer weekends when it becomes overcrowded. The owner expects to expand the course by adding another nine holes sometime during the next five years. Evidence that golf courses attract better residential development has held true in Fairmont. The vicinity of this golf course is one of the best areas for residential development and the several expensive homes near the course should attract many others during the next five years.

Golf is available only to members who pay a \$250 fee to join and an additional family fee of \$9 per month.

Ornamental Park:

The small Ornamental Park on Main Street across from the hotel is not developed to its fullest beauty. The park needs landscaping treatment, better walkways, new benches, and general clean-up. This park could become a pleasant rest area for the downtown. The chief disadvantages of this park are its small size and the adjacent land use (a cemetery) which nearly prohibits expansion of this park.

Fairmont Pool Inc.:

There is no public pool in Fairmont. However, white citizens are able to cool off in a private pool located at the southeast corner of Murphy and Taylor streets provided they have a membership to the pool. The stockholders buy a share for \$250 and then pay an annual \$25 family membership fee. On the property owned by Fairmont Pool Inc. is a pie shaped swimming pool 85' long by 35' at one end and 50' at the other end, a wading pool, cement block bathhouse, and an open area with picnic tables outside the fence enclosed pool area.

Fairmont Teen Club:

Aside from school oriented activity, the Fairmont Teen Club is the only organized activity for teenagers. This privately sponsored club holds weekly dances in a rented building at 706 Taylor Street. Once a month a live combo is hired by the sponsor. The remainder of these Saturday night dances are to recorded music. Entertainment is provided for members only who have paid an annual \$10 membership fee. The dances are held year-round and are chaperoned.

Although membership is open to 9-12 graders, the club is used primarily by the ninth and tenth grade students. There are presently 75 members - an increase of fifteen members above the 1965-66 school year.

Little League:

The Civitans are the service organization responsible for Fairmont's Little League Program. One local team plays in a four team district. The remainder of the Little Leaguers make up pee-wee teams and play baseball games among themselves.

Summer Recreation Program:

A supervised summer program is sponsored by the community. High school seniors are hired as group leaders for the children in grades 1-8 who wish to be a part of the activities. The summer playground meets daily at the Fairmont School.

There is little organized recreation activity for adults in Fairmont. The only activity last summer was the four adult softball teams. The remainder of adult activity was done on an individual basis and included primarily tennis, swimming, and golf. The nearness of the Atlantic coastline and a couple of state parks in both of the Carolinas provide some of the recreation requirements for the Fairmont population.

Fishing:

This form of recreation, like hunting, is done on an individual basis. Three private properties in the planning area have fishing ponds open to the public on a fee arrangement. Hayes' Ponds are only open to fishing by persons who possess an annual membership. The ponds straddle the town limits at the southeastern side of town.

Huggins' Ponds on N. C. 41 (north) within the town limits are open for fishing to persons who pay a small annual membership fee. There are two ponds at this location.

The Mitchell Ponds, located less than one mile from the corporate limits to the north of town, are open for fishing on a daily fee basis. There are three ponds on this farm.

Proposed Recreation

Members of the Fairmont Lodge No. 528 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons plan to clear the area behind their lodge on Gertrude Street and put in some recreation equipment.

A local Civitan service club is considering the construction of a lighted Little League ball diamond. The proposed location is in the flat field area behind the Boy Scouts' building.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the town purchase land for active and passive recreation. Land should be set aside in areas that are most likely to be developed - primarily to the west and southwest sections of town. There are enough recreation facilities in the southeast part of town. Several acres to the northwest of Fairmont School should be purchased for recreational purposes. This land could be used by both Rosenwald and Fairmont Schools and provide the community with an additional park area.
2. More intensive use should be made of the land along Old Field Swamp and Mill Branch Creek. Since this land is occasionally flooded, property owners might be persuaded to permit limited use of this land for recreational purposes (hiking, picnicking, and scenic areas). Some communities have developed drainage channels into attractive parkways that are not damaged when peak flow of floodwater moves through the low areas. (See ideas mentioned in the Land Development Plan on page 67.) One citizen in Fairmont has done this with his property to the east of Pittman Street.
3. The town could require all new subdivision proposals to include play areas or an otherwise maintained open

space for recreation. This has very effectively been practiced in some subdivisions. Sometimes an odd shaped lot, hilly terrain, or common ground at the rear of every lot is developed into a useable recreational facility. These ideas could be incorporated into development plans to permanently maintain open space.

4. A rest area in the Central Business District should be developed as a place for passive recreation. A possibility for accomplishing this would be on a lot where a building has either burned to the ground or has been demolished. A park-like mall area could be considered as a replacement for the building. This mall might be a walkway from a parking lot at the rear of the stores to the businesses on the main street. A local garden club or service group could no doubt provide the shrubbery, benches, and whatever labor is necessary to make such a mall a pleasant part of the downtown shopping district.
5. The Town of Fairmont could organize a yearly celebration to coincide with the beginning of the tobacco marketing season. Since this season means much to the economy of Fairmont, it seems that a "Tobacco Festival" would be in line as a source of recreation. Planned recreation and community events could be scheduled during the week leading up to the market opening. Many small communities utilize a significant event in the history of the town to provide the basis for an annual celebration.
6. There is a need in Fairmont to provide recreation for all races without prohibitive membership fees.
7. Finally, reference is again made to the organization of a Recreation and Parks Commission. The N. C. Recreation Commission should be asked to assist in establishing a

local Recreation and Parks Commission. This local committee could make an appraisal of the town's needs and recommend effective course of action. This is the most efficient way to deal with providing effective recreational facilities for a community. Coordinated to this local commission, service clubs can often donate their time, energy, and support to a project involving recreation or park areas. Other advisory assistance to a local recreation program could be obtained from the N. C. Recreation Commission.

An important consideration of a Recreation and Parks Commission should be the desirability of constructing a community center within the planning period. A community center would provide active and passive recreation for young and old alike. It is possible that a facility of this nature would be a catalyst to community activity in Fairmont and an object of civic pride.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

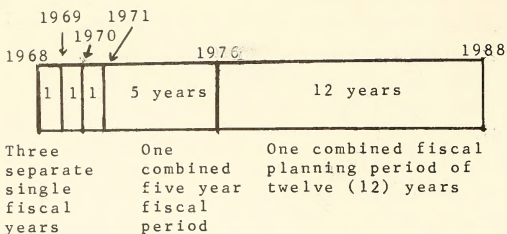
The Community Facilities Plan has previously inventoried the physical, social and governmental services rendered to residents of Fairmont. The plan has presented public services in conclusive documentation for the long-range 20 year planning period. From the evaluations of these facilities is devised the Public Improvements Program.

The Public Improvements Program delineates, on a priority basis, project expenditures of the town for the planning period. The needs of those facilities discussed in the earlier sections of this publication are now presented with a justification for each recommended improvement.

The items included in the Public Improvements Program are primarily large recurring items or major purchases of land and machinery or the construction of buildings. These items are built for or are acquired to last several years. Those items excluded are more ordinary expenses such as annual street and building maintenance costs and minor equipment items like office supplies and maintenance materials.

The Public Improvements Program can be used as a guide in the development of the Capital Improvements Budget which lists in priority each improvement and determines how the cost of each item will be financed during a specific fiscal year. Public improvements programming is utilized as the means of implementing the community's general development plan. It provides for better tax spending in relation to the most needed municipal facilities and allows for adequate time to follow planned procedures of land development. Together with the Community Facilities Plan, Land Development Plan, and other long range studies, this program should provide Fairmont with a feasible development scheme.

The Public Improvements Program is presented in this report in five time periods, as indicated on the following graphic:



Each of the time periods maintain an individual character. The first individual fiscal year contains the most specific scheduling of improvement items. The remaining two fiscal years are more general. The five year division between 1971 and 1976 presents a grouping of improvement items that are scheduled to take place anytime during that period. Finally, the 12 year remainder has a very generalized list of improvements that should be undertaken between 1976-1988.

Within each of the time divisions the improvement items are listed on a priority arrangement. The schedule is designed to meet the needs of Fairmont within a specific period. Programming in this manner anticipates needs of the community and therefore eliminates last minute scheduling. As additional needs during that interval are realized, they will be added to the priority listing.

Fairmont must renew and replace equipment as it wears out or becomes obsolete; also the town must increase its physical plant and services for its population. As more modern, time-saving equipment becomes available, the town should buy those pieces of equipment that would facilitate operations the most. To document the need for each of the proposed improvements, a statement of justification is included. The most immediate community facility

needs should be those projects necessary to the health, safety, and general welfare of the community.

In the Public Improvements Program, there has been no attempt to provide estimates of cost for the proposed projects. Consideration, however, is given to what the community does need versus what it can afford without consistently overspending its revenue. Several assumptions have been made in this scheduling:

1. Fairmont's revenue will continue to increase.
2. Bonds will be issued to cover some of the expenses programmed in the Public Improvements Program.
3. Federal aid will assume part of the costs of programmed needs.
4. Fairmont is interested in saving money by long-range financial planning.

This report should be reviewed periodically and brought up to date in light of changing conditions in the community. As needs arise they should be incorporated into the Public Improvements Plan; likewise, if an improvement is no longer required, it should be deleted from the schedule. In the same manner, if implementation of an improvement cannot adhere to the schedule, it should be rescheduled. Items that cannot be worked into the budget for the present year should be given consideration in the following year. All of the improvements are listed consecutively in relation to the importance of other community needs.

The Public Improvements Program is valuable to the Town Officials and citizens of Fairmont in that it does the following:

1. Provides means of assuring that the projects will be carried out in accordance to the predetermined priority based on need.
2. Gives the municipality a guide to use in future financial planning.
3. Protects the town against the influence of well-meaning groups seeking to advance some interests irrespective of the needs of the town as a whole.

4. Permits coordination of projects among the town departments, school district, and other governmental agencies and by so doing saves money.
5. Gives municipal departments a chance to better program their construction activities and equipment needs in relation to the needs of other departments.
6. Required bond issues and the necessary tax income can be foreseen. Provisions for the issuance of bonds and adjustments in future town tax policies can be initiated before the financial stability of the town is endangered.
7. Permits more time for the acquisition of land for the needed improvements or permits the retention of tax delinquent land or unused municipal property for these improvements.
8. Gives the taxpayer knowledge of the services he receives for his tax dollar and helps provide him with information on the total needs of the town so that he may vote intelligently on bond issues.
9. Lengthens the period available for proper technical design of community facilities.

Two significant considerations are reflected in this report. First, efforts should be made to purchase land for needed facilities far in advance of the actual need for the particular facility. With each passing year there will be less vacant and less desirable available land in Fairmont that can be used for community facilities. Another justification for obtaining land prior to need is that land values are increasing. The second consideration herein is that the functional arrangement and visual appearance of Fairmont affects the economy of the town and affects the ability of the town to attract industrial and commercial firms as well as new residents.

It should be noted that the school facilities are excluded from this listing primarily because they are financed from other

than municipal funds. Medical activities are private or county supported and likewise have been omitted from the listing.

Financial Summary of Fairmont

On the following page is a statistical summary of financial conditions in Fairmont during a ten year period from July 1, 1956 - June 30, 1966. The tax rate during this decade is shown to have increased only from \$1.80 to \$1.90 in the past year. The 1966-67 rate of \$2.00 per \$100.00 of assessed property value (not shown in the table) was recently reduced to \$1.75 by the Board of Commissioners for the 1967-68 fiscal year.

The two tax levies involved in the financial position are the general and debt service funds. Normally above 80 percent of the levy is collectable in the year of the levy. (See Table on page 83 for the statistical summary).

The table also indicates the revenue totaled \$173,880.27 in the 1965-66 fiscal year. Taxes were responsible for 43 percent of the revenue and the water service provided an additional 39 percent. The remaining 18 percent of the revenue for municipal operations came from these sources: the Powell Bill, privilege licences, franchise and intangible tax, recorders court, and others. The total revenue in 1965-66 was an increase of \$58,000 from ten years ago; however, the town now provides more services to a larger population than was the case in 1956-57.

Expenses for the ten year period are listed by departments in the third part of the same table. In the fiscal year 1965-66, expenses were less than revenues. This provided a surplus for that year of \$27,897.62. This has not always been the case; four times in the ten years the municipality has overspent incoming revenue for a given fiscal year. The largest expenses in the town are usually incurred by the street or water departments. For specific figures consult the table on page 83.

STATISTICAL FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 1956-1966
FAIRMONT, NORTH CAROLINA

TAX LEVIES:

GENERAL AND DEBT
SERVICE FUNDS

	VALUATION	TAX RATE	TOTAL LEVY	COLLECTED IN YEAR OF LEVY		COLLECTED TO DATE	
				AMOUNT	PERCENT	AMOUNT	PERCENT
1965-66	\$4,155,279	\$1.90	\$79,981.30	\$65,618.40	82.66%	\$65,618.40	82.66%
1964-65	3,900,677	1.80	70,628.17	59,912.38	84.83	66,705.07	94.45
1963-64	3,228,928	1.80	58,546.74	48,624.03	83.05	56,105.07	95.83
1962-63	3,194,258	1.80	57,913.74	47,691.26	82.35	56,088.51	96.85
1961-62	3,015,683	1.80	54,698.29	44,423.54	81.22	53,314.65	97.47
1960-61	3,072,551	1.80	55,698.91	46,556.62	83.59	54,888.96	98.55
1959-60	3,086,579	1.80	55,956.41	47,143.62	84.25	55,377.38	98.97
1958-59	3,084,348	1.80	55,938.27	47,454.71	84.83	55,387.86	99.02
1957-58	3,205,711	1.80	58,189.80	49,375.50	84.85	57,576.96	98.95
1956-57	3,053,862	1.80	55,444.52	46,934.87	84.65	54,780.82	98.80
REVENUE	TOTAL	TAXES	POWELL BILL	WATER REVENUE	PRIVILEGE LICENSES	FRANCHISE & INTANGIBLE TAX	RECORDERS COURT
1965-66	\$173,880.27	\$74,554.26	\$12,767.02	\$50,188.72	\$6,952.90	\$5,236.79	\$2,721.50
1964-65	157,137.61	67,954.59	12,167.67	50,188.72	5,902.10	4,685.30	1,975.00
1963-64	142,846.32	57,532.18	11,999.30	48,567.21	6,226.28	4,098.31	1,812.50
1962-63	163,669.54	57,140.85	11,523.18	48,586.14	6,629.07	3,889.60	2,768.00
1961-62	170,545.48	51,798.07	11,177.00	38,023.69	5,341.55	3,461.65	1,722.00
1960-61	130,206.16	53,808.56	11,945.96	36,949.83	7,054.40	3,738.44	2,054.00
1959-60	53,968.08	53,968.08	12,113.94	36,517.00	5,839.36	3,270.37	2,560.50
1958-59	139,810.70	54,973.12	11,776.34	36,057.86	6,702.72	2,952.73	2,472.50
1957-58	126,289.07	57,653.07	11,872.31	34,693.05	7,121.25	2,958.24	2,159.00
1956-57	116,089.73	54,929.52	11,842.14	28,203.72	5,293.99	3,003.46	2,629.00

GENERAL &
ADMINI-
STRATIVE

STREET
DEPARTMENT

SANITARY
DEPARTMENT

WATER
DEPARTMENT

POLICE
DEPARTMENT

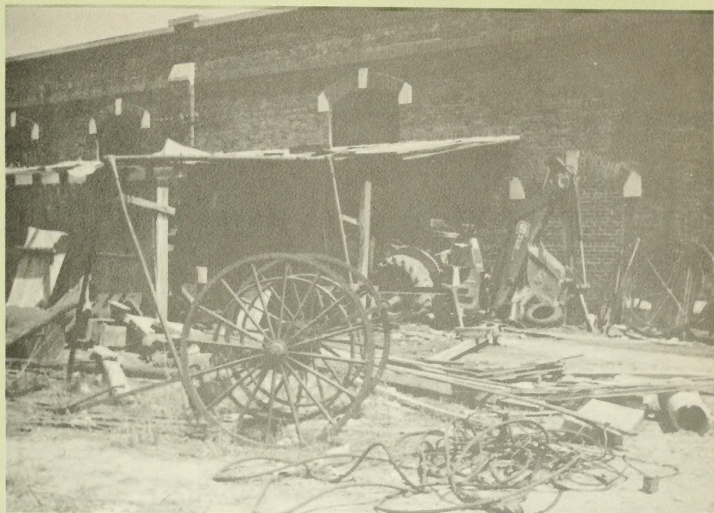
FIRE
DEPARTMENT

DEBT
SERVICE

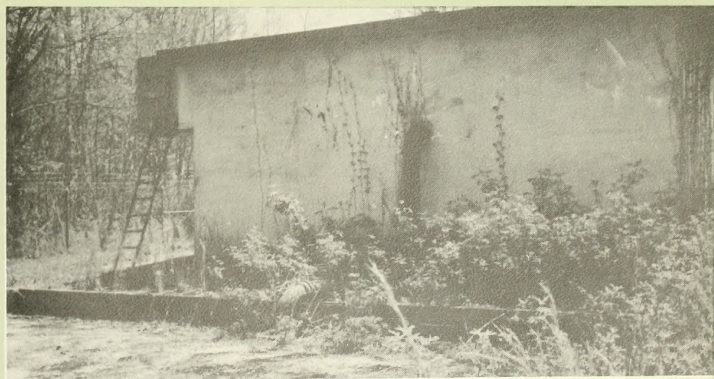
EXPENSE	TOTAL	GENERAL & ADMINI- STRATIVE	STREET DEPARTMENT	SANITARY DEPARTMENT	WATER DEPARTMENT	POLICE DEPARTMENT	FIRE DEPARTMENT	DEBT SERVICE
1965-66	\$145,982.65	\$24,967.97	\$36,458.00	\$13,331.45	\$21,090.32	\$23,517.91	\$6,441.93	\$20,155.07
1964-65	162,293.48	24,898.14	37,907.86	20,304.08	30,508.57	25,071.24	6,873.46	16,730.13
1963-64	136,506.27	22,470.01	39,215.87	12,410.95	20,501.18	21,479.33	5,992.11	14,336.82
1962-63	170,612.91	21,982.40	37,222.21	15,706.35	50,443.16	20,820.07	6,815.45	17,623.27
1961-62	143,631.62	19,135.95	33,603.55	8,138.02	40,066.37	19,093.63	5,317.28	18,337.95
1960-61	134,583.08	24,245.29	39,236.79	6,138.02	18,755.68	20,738.38	5,401.31	18,067.61
1959-60	125,693.75	19,092.92	36,816.99	9,628.75	16,389.21	20,107.11	5,154.56	18,506.21
1958-59	121,726.47	14,450.15	35,409.61	7,966.86	18,986.07	19,459.32	6,482.09	18,972.37
1957-58	116,564.08	15,948.55	26,053.82	8,433.13	21,027.35	19,769.05	5,718.22	19,613.96
1956-57	120,083.27	19,611.23	35,129.34	- 0 -	22,081.36	18,263.34	4,227.62	20,772.38

Bond Anticipation Notes Outstanding June 30, 1966 \$183,000.00
Source: S. Preston Douglas & Assoc., Report of Audit, Town of Fairmont, H, September 26, 1966

As of June 30, 1966, Fairmont had a 4.4 percent indebtedness to assessed valuation. North Carolina law prohibits municipal debt to exceed eight percent of the total assessed value. Fairmont is therefore in a favorable borrowing situation.



the projects



THE PROJECTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
1968-69

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1	Construct a new sewage treatment plant	The facility now in use serves 2,500 people. The 28 year old plant, designed for a maximum capacity of 1,000 people, is completely inadequate and therefore should be replaced. Replacement of this overloaded facility will put Fairmont in agreement with pollution abatement policies and good health practices set forth by state officials of the Division of Stream Sanitation and Hydrology. The site must meet regulations of this state division.
2	Convert ice plant to public works garage and storage facility (Phase I)	The ice plant equipment that has been <u>unused</u> for some time should be removed from the building and either sold or thrown out. The space within could then be used for storage and maintenance of municipal equipment only. Minor renovation and cleanup of this building would be needed to make it totally useable by the Public Works Department. This work is to be designated as Phase I.
3	Cleanup both city storage yards. (Phase II)	The storage area on the ice plant grounds could be Phase II of a general cleanup of municipal storage areas. Equipment and materials presently piled, stacked or stored outside could now be moved inside in rooms vacated by the old ice plant equipment. This process would give the

1968-69 (Cont.)

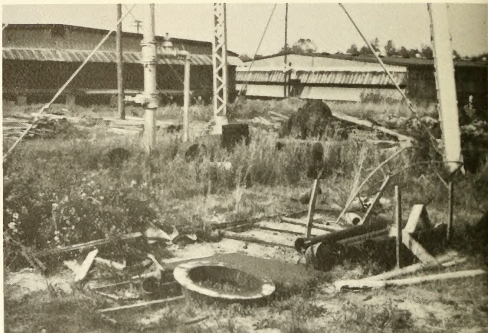
Priority Improvement Item

Justification

Public Works Department more space and at the same time remove the cluttered appearance of both city storage areas (the ice plant grounds and the city lot at the corner of Linden and Maple Streets).



- 4 Drill new water well



The town now depends entirely upon one well for municipal water. In an emergency situation the town would have to resort to reserve wells that yield bad tasting water. (There is no substitute well with good water in Fairmont). The new well should tap an aquifer that can provide good drinking water.

- 5 Replace one municipal fire truck

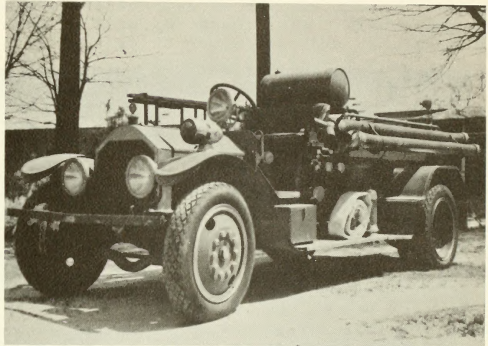
The dependable life of a fire truck is considered by the National Board of Fire Underwriters to be 20 years. The 1927 LaFrance fire truck is twenty years beyond its desired serviceability lifetime. The outdated truck's

1968-69 (Cont.)

Priority Improvement Item

Justification

replacement would provide a preferable level of dependable service equipment to Fairmont.



6 Asphalt spreader

The town needs this piece of machinery so that the Street Department can do more of the town's paving work. With this equipment unpaved roads in Fairmont could be surfaced, streets could be better maintained and the Street Department personnel could be more efficiently utilized.

7 Repave streets

With continued use, asphalt wears thin and begins to crack and break. In Fairmont the streets in this condition which immediately need attention are: Gertrude, from Walnut to Brown; Morro, from Gertrude to Cottage; Jackson, from Pine to Bradshaw; Trinity, from Main to Church Street; and Oakwood, from Linden to Cole. This work must be

1968-69 (Cont.)

Priority Improvement Item

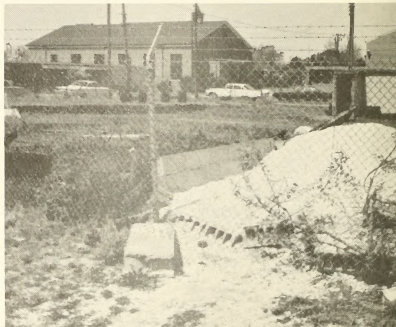
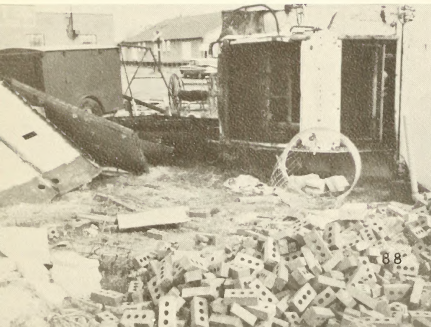
Justification

contracted because of inadequate town equipment for such a project. It is false economy to let this work go undone because repair costs will be much greater if deterioration continues.



- 8 Buffer screen
 storage yards
 (Phase III)

Phase III would enclose storage materials which must necessarily remain outside (due to weight or bulk). This action would remove storage areas from public view and reduce vandalism to equipment and materials. Equipment may easily be tampered with and parts stolen if it is left unprotected. A chain link fence with redwood pickets would be sufficient to close off the view to the public.



<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
9	Repaint street markers	Many streets cannot be identified by the streetposts provided because the paint is so badly weathered. This problem appears all over town rather than in any one area. Although the project is a minor one, it is something that should be immediately undertaken.
10	Replace street lighting on Main, Walnut, New Street	To upgrade the system. This is the beginning of a town-wide replacement program. Mercury vapor lamps should be considered. The town leases the lighting fixtures from the Carolina Power and Light Company.
11	Install both an 8 inch sewer and 6 inch water main to serve area on N. C. 41 south of the present town limits.	Both water and sewer lines must be extended to annexed areas within a year of the date of annexation. This area is most likely to be annexed in the near future.
12	Employ additional patrolman	The police force is understaffed to provide an adequate level of protection. Protection is at a minimum when only one man is expected to be at the police station to investigate crimes, to patrol the town, and to carry out other various duties.
13	Downtown beautification	Pride, income and interest can be improved by enacting such a program. Mentioned in the <u>Community Facilities Plan</u> was a proposed rest area between Main Street and parking lots to the rear of the stores (see page 62 of the <u>Community Facilities Plan</u>).

1968-69 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
14	Cleanup ornamental park	The fountain and small pool in this park could be much improved with an overall cleanup project. Shrubs and bushes need pruning.

1969-70
Fiscal Year

15	Pave municipal storage yard and provide sheds for motor vehicles (Phase IV)	This project is a continuation of the ice plant renovation. Completion of this item would terminate improvements to the storage garage and public works department. Sheds should be provided so that equipment can be kept out of the weather when not in use. The length of equipment usability is expected to increase somewhat by housing it in this way. Maintenance of equipment could be more easily done during inclement weather if a covered area were provided.
16	Replace patrol car	To avoid possible breakdown and increasing maintenance cost, the patrol car has enough wear after 3-4 years use to warrant replacement. Eventually the patrol car should be replaced every other year.
17	Repave streets	The following streets need maintenance because of thin asphalt and breakage: Pine from Main to Jackson and Maple Street from Linden to Main Street.

1969-70 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
18	Employ additional manpower for Police Department and Public Works Department	Providing that annexations occur during the late 1960's, more adequate protection and service forces for these areas would be required to maintain a desired level of public services.
19	Replace street lighting in entire commercial area	Revisions to the lighting system will eventually upgrade lighting in the entire town. This action might provide the stimulus to do the remainder of town in the near future.
<p>1970-71 Fiscal Year</p>		
20	Replace equipment	Due to wear, the following motor driven vehicles should be replaced: 1953 motor grader, the 1961 tractor and one or two street department trucks (1963 Ford, 1964 Chevy).
21	Extend sewer mains to the southeast of town and in Fisher Park; extend water lines to the south of town and west of town along Church Street to Delmus Street	Extension of services will be necessary in areas of new development and especially annexations. Size of extensions will depend upon density of development and upon the kind of land use served, i.e., residential, commercial, industrial, rural.
22	Purchase land for municipal recreation	A series of land purchases should be made to provide Fairmont with park and recreation areas. The land purchased should correspond to an orderly plan of development similar to

Priority Improvement Item

Justification

that proposed in the Land Development Plan. The recreational land should be of several different types for a variety of recreational needs. The town and school board should work together in choosing facilities. Duplication of the same kinds of facilities are less likely when proposals are coordinated among all groups. Officials interested in the same activities together can plan for a wider variety of recreation uses. Land for recreation should first be purchased in the northeast and then the southwest quadrants of town. The southeast quadrant has the best facilities at the present time. In the west half of Fairmont the schools are the source of all recreation facilities that are now available.



1970-71 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
23	Improvements to street system	Existing streets and downtown sidewalks should be improved and maintained to provide safe travel (both pedestrian and vehicular) for the citizens of Fairmont. The unpaved streets to the southwest of the downtown should be surfaced in this fiscal year.
24	Repair streets	Repaving should be done to those streets which have worn thin.
<p>Five Year Period From July 1971 - June 1976</p>		
25	Purchase and replace equipment regularly for Public Works Department.	Through use, all motorized vehicles will eventually become so worn so as to be uneconomical to operate. Equipment should be replaced and added whenever it is needed and when sufficient funds are available. A new garbage truck will be the major expense. Additional street dump trucks should be purchased to offset demands caused by annexation.
26	Install 8 inch loop water line from North Main to SR 2433 to connect at Church Street; Install sewer lines wherever needed using the gravity flow technique;	A growing community must continue to provide these services to its citizens in areas of new development. Water service is necessary for consumption and for providing adequate fire protection to residential areas.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
	Improvements to street system and thoroughfare plan.	Streets should be added to assure an effective circulation pattern in Fairmont and at the same time an effective program of resurfacing streets is needed to reduce the number of deteriorating streets in the town.
27	Purchase land for municipal building	Within the planning period a new municipal building is proposed. This building will combine several local governmental functions when completed so as to provide a higher level of governmental service to Fairmont. It is important to the municipality to begin purchasing land for this building because land values will be higher if the town chooses to postpone taking action. Not all of the land needs to be immediately bought at one time. The remainder of the site could be bought during the next two years. Land adjacent to the site should be purchased eventually so that the surrounding land use can be controlled by the town.
28	Parks and recreation -- land purchase and development	Fairmont should provide for its citizens, regardless of age and economic status, both active and passive recreational areas. The town should provide recreation facilities in areas of town where population growth is greatest or where facilities are lacking.
29	Radar speed detector; intoxication meter	Providing the police department grows in manpower and operations, these pieces of equipment would be an aid to enforcement.

1971-76 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
30	Realign Cottage Street-Church Street connection	Realignment of this intersection would eliminate the jog that presently exists where these two streets intersect with Main Street. This improvement, mentioned in the <u>Thoroughfare Plan</u> , would improve the traffic circulation pattern.
31	Contract for a new municipal building	Employ a professional architect to draw plans for the new municipal building.
32	Purchase additional land for municipal building	To protect the site of the new facility and to add to land already held is a good policy for the town to follow. Additional adjacent land can be used for off-street parking and for expansion purposes.
33	Install street lights in remainder of town and in annexed areas as needed.	This project would not only upgrade the system but also would provide improved street lighting throughout the town's residential areas.
34	New municipal building	Construction, landscaping, and paved parking of a new building for local governmental offices, police station and jail will give Fairmont adequate space for these functions. The building will be one of the main centers of activity in the community. If a permanent library does not exist, space should be designated for that purpose.
35	Convert old town hall	When a new municipal building is completed, the present town hall and jail space may be taken over by the fire department. This space, if converted

1971-76 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
		to fire department useage, would eliminate the need for building a new fire station. The minor renovation should include replacing some of the furniture.
<p>Twelve Year Period From July 1976 - June 1988</p>		
36	Complete all aspects of municipal building	If the project lacks completion in any respect, or if an addition is needed, this time period is conducive to such action.
37	Land purchase and construction of a community center	This facility, originally proposed in the <u>Land Development Plan</u> , would serve as a recreational center for <u>all</u> citizens of Fairmont. The proposed community center building should include an assembly hall with a stage, arts and crafts and meetings rooms, special rooms for teenagers and senior citizens, a kitchen, snack bar, office and storage rooms. It is recommended that a community center be erected on the recreational land that was purchased to the northwest of Fairmont School.
38	Traffic circulation improvement to major thoroughfares	Consideration of the proposed thoroughfare plan circulation should be followed by improvements to aid traffic on the N. C. 41 Bypass and the N. C. 130 Bypass. (See pages 79-85 of the <u>Land Development Plan</u>).

1976-88 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
		This plan should be completed in its entirety during this time period. The minor traffic arteries should be upgraded and connected to major arteries in a manner such that traffic can move easily.
39	Replace 1955 Ford (F800) Pumper	Pumpers are generally considered to have a useful life of 20 years.
40	Hire additional full-time firemen and policemen	The increased population, due to annexation and natural growth, require additional man hours of duty. This action will improve the level of protection provided to the citizens of Fairmont.
41	Hire two additional men for the Public Works Department	The expanded incorporated area could be served more adequately with additional manpower.
42	Develop a police and fire training grounds for use by these protection agencies in Robeson County	A well equipped protection program is inadequate unless its members are well trained to provide a variety of protection. A county-wide training center would give all communities in Robeson County the opportunity for upgrading the training of firemen and policemen.
43	Drill new water well;	Additional water wells should be drilled in new developing areas so as to reduce distribution problems and add to the water supply.
	Install sewer lines following drainage patterns, complete loop system north of town, extend sewers to areas of	The installation of water and sewer lines should take place on a schedule which is related to areas achieving the most intensive new development and highest population densities.

1976-88 (Cont.)

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
	most concentrated development; Install water lines to achieve a completed loop distribution system. Lines will mostly follow the highway system.	Municipal service must be provided within one year of the date of annexation. See the map on page 26 which shows proposed water and sewer lines in relation to the approved <u>Land Development Plan</u> .

STATE LIBRARY OF NORTH CAROLINA



3 3091 00747 6963

The preparation of this report was financially aided through a Federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended.

